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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XII. PITTSBURGH, TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 16, 1875. NO. 137.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial.

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FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Long List of Bills Passed Second Reading in the Senate.

Another Session of the House Wasted.

FILIBUSTERING AGAINST LOCAL OPTION REPEAL.

Mr. Toner's Bill Staved Off Till Next Week.

SENATE.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 15, 1875.

The following bills passed first reading:

Relating to change of venue in civil cases.

Appropriating money for the propagation and protection of fish.

Fixing the salaries of judges.

Providing for printing the railroad report of the Auditor General.

Joint resolution authorizing the Clerk to purchase Purdon's Digests.

Authorizing the settlement of claims against the Constitutional Convention.

Repealing the supplement relating to county treasurers.

Providing for transferring awards of arbitrators.

Authorizing appeals from assessments to the courts.

Authorizing the use of unclaimed bodies of convicts for the promotion of medical science.

Enabling assignees to sell incumbered real estate.

Regulating the bringing of suits against the Commonwealth.

Fixing and regulating the terms of all members of Council and all ward, borough and township officers excepting school directors elected by the people.

Providing for the refunding and redemption of municipal indebtedness contracted prior to the 20th of April, 1874.

Enabling citizens to hold titles formerly held contrary to law.

Relating to game and game fish; relating to the commencement of the term of law judges.

The session to-morrow will be for bills on second reading to which there are no objections.

HOUSE.

The Indiana township road law and the bill authorizing the Supreme Court to appoint officers, lost on second reading last Thursday, were reconsidered and postponed for the present.

The session was occupied in offering resolutions on various subjects of no importance, debating and calling the yeas and nays until ten o'clock, being a siege of filibustering by the opponents of Local Option repeal, who held a caucus early in the evening, and who thus succeeded in preventing Mr. Toner's bill from coming up on the first reading, until Wednesday week.

Bills on first reading and reports of committees are the special order for to-morrow.

XLIII. CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 15, 1875.

The Secretary laid before the Senate a letter from Vice-President Wilson, announcing that he would be absent from the city for two or three days.

Mr. Anthony, of Rhode Island, was chosen President *pro tempore* of the Senate, and the Secretary was directed to notify the President and House of Representatives of the fact.

Mr. EDMUNDS, from the Judiciary Committee, reported, without amendments, the Civil Rights bill, which recently passed the House of Representatives, and gave notice that he would call it up at the earliest possible moment, which would be in a day or two. Placed on the calendar.

Mr. CHANDLER, from the Committee on Commerce, reported back the Steamboat bill with amendments, and said it was now only the skeleton of the bill heretofore considered. He asked the Senators to examine it carefully and say if there was anything in it worth passing; if so he would call it up to-morrow. Placed on the calendar.

Mr. SCOTT, from the Committee of Conference on the bill to amend the National Bank act and fixing the compensation of national bank examiners, made a report, which was agreed to, recommending the report. Mr. Scott said the committee had agreed to fix a specific compensation for the examination of national banks, instead of allowing mileage as heretofore.

The morning hour having expired, the CHAIR announced that the unfinished business before the Senate was the bill to provide a government for the District of Columbia.

Mr. MORTON moved to postpone the pending and all prior orders, and proceed to the consideration of the bill to amend, reported by the Committee on Privileges and Elections, for the admission of Pinchback as Senator from the State of Louisiana.

Mr. MORRILL, of Maine, said that in view of the assurances he gave on Saturday, he did not feel himself at liberty to urge the further consideration of the bill to provide a government for the District of Columbia before the end of the session he would endeavor to have it considered again.

Mr. THURMAN inquired if the motion of the Senator from Indiana (Morton) could be divided. He thought the Senate could vote first upon postponing the pending order, and then upon what should be taken up.

The CHAIR (Anthony) replied that the motion was divisible.

Mr. THURMAN, resuming, said the Senator from Maine (Morrill) should not permit his bill to be postponed unless he intended to abandon it. Those who offered amendments on Saturday did not do so out of hostility to the bill, but to perfect it. It would not be killed unless the gentleman who had charge of it killed it. He hoped the Senator from Maine would not abandon his offspring in this way.

Mr. MORRILL, of Maine, said he had not the slightest disposition to abandon the bill, but it had already consumed a great deal of time, and should have been passed. Every proposition in the Committee of the Whole had been overruled, but when the bill was considered in the Senate, two or three hours were consumed in offering amendments. He was willing to have the session of Saturday continued till nine or ten o'clock at night to complete the bill, but when a motion to adjourn was made shortly after six o'clock, his friend (Thurman) and others went over and voted for an adjournment. He (Morrill) would not press the bill to-day, but gave notice that he would seek the first opportunity to have it considered when it could be done without displacing any bill of more importance.

Mr. MORTON said as the Senator from Ohio (Thurman) desired to divide the motion just made, he (Morton) would now move to lay the bill to provide a government for the District of Columbia on the table, and he did so for the purpose of then moving to proceed to the consideration of the resolution for the admission of Pinchback.

The motion to lay the District Government bill on the table was agreed to—yeas 34, nays 23, Messrs. Fenton, Sprague and Tipton voting with the Democrats against the motion.

Mr. MORTON then moved to take up the resolution for the admission of Pinchback.

Mr. BOGY moved to lay that motion on the table and take up the Steamboat bill.

Mr. EDMUNDS raised the point of order that the motion of Mr. Bogy was not in order.

The CHAIR (Mr. Anthony) said he was advised that it was.

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After some further discussion, the CHAIR submitted the question to the Senate, as to whether the motion of Mr. Bogy was in order, and it was decided in the negative—yeas 25, nays 29.

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Mr. MORTON said Pinchback had presented his credentials, duly signed by the Governor and countersigned by the Secretary of State, showing that in January, 1873, he was elected United States Senator for the period of six years from March 4, 1873. Upon those credentials he had a *prima facie* case, and must be seated, any inquiries into the character of the body which elected him, or the improper means used to secure his election be inquired into afterwards. It was no part of his purpose to go over the Louisiana story again, but he would content himself with giving a few brief authorities for the admission of Pinchback. The first was admission of Pinchback. The first was that growing out of the admission of Mr. Goldthwaite, a Senator from Alabama. The Senator from Ohio (Thurman) then, in the course of his remarks, said the credentials of a Senator, properly signed, made a *prima facie* case, and Mr. Goldthwaite was seated on his *prima facie* case.

Mr. MORTON next referred to the case of Mr. Robbins, of Rhode Island, in 1851, and said that after a long debate he was seated on his credentials. In the case of General Shields, who was admitted as a member of the Senate in 1849, his credentials were referred to the Committee on Judiciary, and it was claimed that he could not be admitted, not being a citizen of the United States. The debate on the question, when it came up, was participated in by Messrs. Douglass, Walker, Badger, Webster and others, and after a full discussion it was decided that General Shields had a *prima facie* case on the Governor's certificate, and he was therefore sworn in. Afterwards the case was examined and he was found not to be a citizen of the United States, and was expelled. If the Senate recognized Kellogg as Governor of Louisiana, then Pinchback had a *prima facie* case and must be seated, any objection to the character of the body by which he was elected or the mode or manner of his election to be inquired into after he was seated. As was said by Webster, the Senate gets no jurisdiction over the subject unless the person elected becomes a member of the Senate. He gave notice that to-morrow he would ask the Senate to continue its session until the case of Pinchback was disposed of.

Mr. HAMLIN said the Senate would be invited to attend the funeral of the late Samuel Hooper, in the House of Representatives to-morrow afternoon, and he suggested to his friend (Morton) to ask for a vote on Wednesday.

Before announcing when he would ask for a vote, Mr. Morton yielded to Mr. SARGENT, who spoke in reference to the employment of military force in Louisiana to put down insurrection.

Before Mr. Sargent concluded, a message was received from the House announcing the death of Hon. Samuel Hooper, a member of that body, and inviting the Senate to attend his funeral in the hall of the House to-morrow afternoon.

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TILTON-BEECHER.

Plaintiff's Cross-Examination Closed and Re-Direct Begun.

The True Story—Threat to Shoot Beecher—Golden Age Experiences—The Revolution—Beecher's Portrait—The Bacon Letter—Congregational Council—Tilton's Religious Views, etc.

NEW YORK, February 15.—The Brooklyn City Court room contained the usual complement of spectators this morning. All the counsel were in their places when Judge Neilson ascended the bench. Mrs. Tilton was accompanied into the court room by Mrs. Field and her counsel, Mr. B. Wheeler. Mr. Beecher and wife installed in a few minutes before the proceedings commenced. Mr. Tilton resumed his place on the witness stand, and his cross-examination was continued by Mr. Evarts, as follows:

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At the time of the sale of the paper it was largely in debt, and nothing came to me after it was disposed of. I have never given Moulton any security for these moneys, and never sent any portrait, except Beecher's, to his house. I made him a gift of a portrait of mine. Moulton borrowed, about two years ago, from me a picture of the Savior, painted by Page. That picture is now in the house of Woodruff, where I sent it for safe-keeping, hearing that my house was going to be mobbed. I do not remember anything of a proposition of one thousand dollars advanced, except that Moulton told me that a friend of his wanted to invest some thousand dollars in the stock of the *Golden Age*.

The writing of my letter to Dr. Bacon was caused by the impression put out that I was a knave and a dog and that Beecher was the most magnanimous of men. In my letter to Dr. Bacon I took care to speak in complimentary terms of my wife, and at the same time vindicating her with myself. I did not have any impression that it cast an imputation on my wife's honor or that of my family, but it was written with the object of self-vindication. I do not know if Beecher was responsible for the Church Council gathering, but I think that many things occurred in Plymouth church which he might have governed. I think in the letters he sent to the council by Plymouth church he vindicated himself at my expense. I was, I think, in the extremist darkness Dr. Bacon used it to fling at me like an arrow at a mark. These slurs upon me could have been prevented by me, but they were done in the evening, prior to the Council, I met Beecher. He told me he could control Plymouth Church in its action; that he held it in his hand, and that its members would act in the matter as he desired. I wrote two letters to this Council while it was in session.

I told the Investigating Committee I was warned not to produce the letters and papers before them, and as I was without counsel I would not submit them. Carpenter and Tracy, I think, said it would be safe to produce them, and thus was its first appearance before them. I then promised to produce them, and did so at a subsequent session. The proceedings of this committee, when I was before it, were not secret. They were published in the Brooklyn *Eagle*. On the night of the day when my sworn statement was submitted to them and was published, I was in Delmonico's, in New York. It was published by Augustus Maverick, on his own responsibility and without my knowledge, adding to obtain his notoriety and publication in the eyes of the public. Maverick was a particular friend of mine, and our friendship continued after the publication. He is now manager of the *Golden Age*, and was in that position at the time of the publication. I had no interview before this publication with any person as to the correctness of the statement to be published. I did not receive any notification on the night before, that it was going to be published. Moulton did not send me such publication before. A copy of it ever bore my signature, except the original, which I prepared. Maverick had possession of the draft, which also contained my signature. He obtained possession of the draft on condition of making a copy for me to preserve.

Moulton came to my house about twelve, on the night of the publication, accompanied by Mr. John Russell Young. I do not remember that Moulton came to a later interview with me at one or two o'clock the following morning. I do not know of Moulton's contributing anything toward the expenses of this suit. Since I left the *Golden Age* I have been struggling to live in a city where Plymouth church had three thousand members who were struggling to keep me down.

Mr. Evarts here stated that he had three letters which he wished to read and put in evidence, and with them his cross-examination would close. Recess.

After recess Mr. Tilton resumed the stand and continued: The birth of my youngest child was on the 22d of June, 1869, and the death of my son Paul occurred on the 26th of January, 1868.

Mr. Shearman then read a letter from Mr. Tilton to Mrs. Tilton, dated Pittsburgh, January 30, 1868, referring to a letter from Mrs. Tilton that afternoon, explaining that he was more cheerful, and the knowledge of her love to him, and his love to him than the world could give or than he deserved. Another sentence of the same letter stated that his love went out in a great stream to his children, and a great portion of it to her.

Mr. Evarts announced that this finished the cross-examination of the witness.

Ex-Judge Fullerton then rose and opened the re-direct examination.

The witness said: The various letters referred to in this examination were, I think, received about the respective times they were dated. I could not fix the date of Mrs. Tilton's going to Marietta, but I think it was in the autumn. I met her at the depot on her return from Marietta, and escorted her to my house, I also notified of her arrival by letter. The child which I sent to her mother's for, was born in September, 1868, and was left for him in December, 1870. She returned from New Brunswick a few days before her sickness. She left my house finally on the 11th of July, after the appearance before the committee. She left about six in the morning, and I was greatly surprised when she told me she was going to Livingston's. Her intimations were that moment, that she was going to leave the house. I think it was either on July 6th or 8th that she appeared before the committee. I did not know of the existence of this committee then.

Q. In answer to a question put by Mr. Evarts, with regard to your wife, you answered: "I think my wife knows every thing good and bad about everything bad, and I believe that to-day she is a good woman." Now, Mr. Tilton, I want to ask you the foundation for Mr. Beecher's view of this charge that he has been preferred against your wife; in other words, how you reconciled that statement with the fact that she is charged with adultery?

A. (hesitating) Well, sir, that is a sad question. I can answer for my own judgment of her behavior, not for other people's opinions. You must remember, sir, that I knew Elizabeth when she was ten years old; that I became her confessed lover at sixteen; that I was married to her at twenty, and that for fifteen years of our married life my love for her was reverence, perhaps almost to the point of making her an idol of my worship; and when she came to her downfall in the confession of my own heart that I must find some excuse for her. Other people might blame her, but I must pardon her. I found that knowledge of the fact that she had been wrapped up in her religious teacher and guide; she had surrendered her convictions to him; she followed his beck and lead as a child; she would go with him like one blinded. I think she sinned her sin as one in a trance. I don't think she was a free agent. I think she would have done the budding if, like the heathen priest in the Hindoo land, he had bade her fling her child in the Ganges or cast herself under Juggernaut. That was my excuse for Elizabeth.

My protest was published in the *Independent*, after the publication of the Cleveland letter. The point of difference between Beecher and myself was that in the year 1866 Mr. Beecher and I were members of the Republican party and the *Independent* was one of its mouthpieces. Mr. Beecher's Cleveland letter was an offense against that party. In that letter he recommended the restitution of the Southern States without making any condition for the negroes. He wanted the Southern States to come back unconditionally, and I wanted them to come conditions, namely, the electoral franchise for the negro.

Witness recognized a paper shown him as a copy of the protest, and it was read in evidence by Mr. Fullerton. The writing of this protest, continued witness, did not break up the friendly relations between Beecher and myself. Beecher's part in the woman's movement was very marked. He was one of the first men to take part in the movement. Mrs. Tilton was also active in the movement, and it was she, in a large degree, who inspired me to take the part in it I did.

As to marriage, I hold that it is the union of one man and one woman for life, for better or for worse, in calm or storm, not only for life but perhaps after; and as to divorce, I hold that this State is behind other States as to the reasons for divorce. In this State there is only one cause for divorce, and in other States there are other causes. I hold that if a man neglects his wife or refuses to maintain her, or is a habitual drunkard, she is entitled to a divorce. I thought the civilization of mankind demand that our code of divorce should be changed to the New England code, giving divorces for various just and satisfactory reasons. In New Hampshire, if a man remains away from his wife one year she can obtain a divorce, but a man married to a woman here might remain away seventy and his wife could get no divorce. I never advocated the doctrine of free-love or said that if a man found that he had an affinity for another woman that was a sufficient cause of divorce. I never advocated that the civil law should have no control over this. I only held that the law should be more liberal.

The allusion in my poem to "orange buds" was in no way immoral, as the orange buds are a symbol of marriage, and it was in that way I used the words. In the East, when a man proffers marriage to a woman he asks her if she will accept some orange buds. I cannot fix the date of the removal of Mr. Beecher's portrait from my house, but it was in consequence of a threat of Mrs. Morse's to cut it to pieces. She threatened to plunge her scissors into it. She was in earnest then—in a perfect frenzy. The portrait was then in my house, standing on the floor. I had taken it down July 3d, and I removed it and sent it to Mr. Moulton's because I thought she would destroy it.

I found some of my wife's correspondence with Mr. Beecher in a small closet, after she left, together with some photographs and books he had given her. This box [produced] and its contents I found in the same closet, and it contained gifts from Beecher, and among them these letters. These likenesses of Mr. Beecher's were found in the closet. They were all taken at different times, as they are all in different attitudes.

The photographs, six in number, were handed to the counsel for defense for examination, and were offered in evidence.

Mr. Evarts fought against the admission of these photographs as evidence, but did not object to their being shown to the jury.

The Court ruled that the finding, or a description of them, might go down on the record.

One photograph contained Beecher's name, which witness identified as Beecher's handwriting.

A letter was shown witness, which he stated was found in the closet after his wife died by witness as Beecher's, was also put in evidence as having been found in the closet on the same occasion. While this testimony was being given, Mrs. Beecher, assistant Pastor Halliday, Mrs. Shearman and Mr. Beecher laughed heartily.

The witness continued: I was brought up, as a boy, in the extremist darkness of Presbyterian faith. All my early years I was an ascetic. I would have cut off my hand then rather than write a letter on the Sabbath day. Even when I grew up and was walking along the street, the sound of an organ would bring back all the old ideas. When I was giving up my old views for new ones, after a period of four years, I endured great suffering. The occasions of despondency, mentioned in my letters, were due to my suffering the pangs in religious ideas. These letters were written in a mood of self-abasement arising from this change. This change was a passage from extreme and narrow views to the most liberal and catholic view of God and his love to men. The one great point on which my struggle took place, was the Deity of Jesus Christ. The misery this change brought to me was because I could not speak of them to Elizabeth without giving her great pain, and I always took care in my letters to let her know where I was in them.

I became editor of the *Independent* when I was quite young, and used its columns for great moral public questions. I then turned to consider the questions of theology, in which I had been trained as a child, and they faded away before my eyes. I then attended Plymouth Church and inculcated its doctrines. I believe in the Divinity of Christ, in a certain sense of the word "divinity." I do not rank the functions of Jesus Christ as being equal to those of God, the Father.

The Court then adjourned.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

England.

THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES ALFONSO.

LONDON, February 15.—In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. Bourke, Under Secretary for the Foreign Department, in reply to an inquiry, stated that instructions would be sent to-night to Mr. Layard, British Minister at Madrid, to recognize Alfonso as King of Spain.

France.

CASSAGNAC WINS IT.

PARIS, February 15.—The libel case of Gen. Wimpffen against M. de Cassagnac has resulted in a verdict for the defendant.

Marine News.

THE LEIPSIC ALL RIGHT.

SOUTHAMPTON, February 15.—The damages sustained by the steamer Leipsic, which was ashore at Start Point, are slight. She is expected to sail for Baltimore in a day or two.

QUEENSTOWN, February 15.—The steamship Samaria, from Boston, arrived.

European Markets.

LONDON, February 15, 1 P. M.—Consols for money 92¼@93; for account 93@93¼. United States bonds—5-20's 1865, 107¾; do 1867, 107¾; 10-40's, 104¾. New York Central 92; Erie 20; preferred 43½. Refined petroleum 16½@16¾d.

LIVERPOOL, February 15.—United States bonds—5-20's 1862, 96¾.

PARIS, February 15.—Rentes 64 francs 40 centimes.

LIVERPOOL, February 15.—Cotton easier and declining; middling uplands 7 27-32d; Orleans 7¾d. Sales of 12,000 bales, including 2,000 for speculation and export, and 6,900 American. Breadstuffs quiet. Corn quarters 34s 3d@34s 6d. Hams—sugar cured dull at 52s. Shoulders 33s 6d. Bacon—long clear middles 46s 6d. Asw ard. February 15.—Refined petroleum 29 francs.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, February 15, 1875.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

Rev. Father Byrne, President of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union, has written a letter advising that that organization should not take part in the parades on St. Patrick's day, partly on the ground of excessive expense, and partly for the reason that parades detract from the religious associations of the day.

THE PACIFIC MAIL SUITS.

The Pacific Mail directors have approved the action of Rufus Hatch in ordering the institution of suits against those parties alleged to have corrupted legislation, and will themselves be parties. About thirty persons will be involved.

CATHOLIC APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS IN AMERICA.

A cable telegram to the New York *Freeman's Journal* announces that Rev. James A. Healy, of Boston, has been made Catholic Bishop of Portland, Maine; Very Rev. Thos. Galberry, the Augustinian Bishop of Hartford; J. J. Kain, of Harper's Ferry, Bishop of Wheeling; Rev. Kendrick Bishop of Green Bay; Rev. Hurley, of Peoria, Bishop of a see created for that city; Rev. John Ireland, of St. Paul, Minnesota, Vicar Apostolic of Nebraska, and Abbot S. Seidenbush the Benedictine Vicar-Apostolic for a part of Minnesota; and the promotion of Pope has authorized the promotion of Philadelphia, Milwaukee and Santa Fe as archi-episcopal sees.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., February 16, 1 A.M., 1875.

For the Ohio Valley, stationary, followed by falling barometer, northwest to northeast winds, slight changes in temperature and partly cloudy weather. For the Lake Region, stationary and rising temperature, westerly winds, increasing cloudiness and local snows, with rising barometer over the lower lakes, but a slight fall on the upper lakes. For the Middle and Eastern States, rising barometer and temperature, northwest winds, partly cloudy and clear weather. The rivers will continue to fall, except a slight rise below Vicksburg.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Gustave Dore is seriously ill.

The steamer Adriatic, from Liverpool, has arrived at New York.

There is no choice for Senator by the Legislature of Minnesota or West Virginia.

The President has nominated George C. Stevens to be Collector of Customs for the district of Milwaukee.

Karl Blind, the liberal German politician, has been seriously injured by a German fanatic, who assaulted him.

The people of Sandusky, Ohio, by a vote of 1,764 to 164, yesterday decided to "bond the city" for $375,000 for the purpose of building water works.

No one to whom President MacMahon has applied to form the Cabinet, is willing to undertake the task until some constitutional laws are decided upon.

W. W. Scarborough, President of the Cincinnati Gas Company, has been appointed Trustee of the Cincinnati Southern Railroad, vice Hooper, resigned.

A telegram from Singapore reports that a revolt of Chinese prisoners in jail there was not suppressed before sixty-seven persons were killed and injured, including sixteen wardens.

Archbishop Cullen, of Dublin, condemns the mission of the revival preachers, Moody and Sankey, who, he says, promise salvation by foolish sensationalism without requiring repentence.

Bradford Wood and wife, a young and newly-married couple of Burlington, Illinois, were instantly killed yesterday, at Austin, Illinois. While standing on the railroad track, they were struck by an express train running at full speed.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

House Civil Rights Bill

REPORTED IN THE SENATE.

The President Urges Its Passage as a Protection to Southern Colored People.

All Hope of Further Legislation for the South Abandoned.

Steamboat Bill Mutilated and Rendered Useless.

PROVISIONS OF THE RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

Pittsburgh's War Claims Withdrawn.

PACIFIC MAIL INVESTIGATION.

Testimony of Whiting, Dillon and Others.

Sunday Session of Congress Proposed for Eulogies of Deceased Members.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February

The Commercial.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1875.

THE Connecticut Democracy meet in convention to-day for the purpose of nominating candidates for State offices.

THERE will be a meeting of the Republican State Committee at the Lochiel Hotel, Harrisburg, on Thursday, March 4, at 2 o'clock P. M.

THE Democracy of New Hampshire are anxious to have ANDY JOHNSON visit them and exhibit his famous original copy of the Constitution for their benefit, during the pending campaign.

THE annual report of the Philadelphia Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, just finished, shows the total assets of that city to be $77,024,025; total liabilities, $54,390,463; difference, $13,233,561.

THE most extravagant poetic flight ever indulged in by WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT, was his nomination of Governor TILDEN for the Presidency, the other day. The author of "Thanatopsis" is in his old age degenerating into burlesque.

AN ARKANSAS paper contains only *ten* proclamations issued by the Governor of that State offering rewards for the arrest of murderers. It must be a delightful part of the world to live in! and its authorities ought to have an immigration commission at each of the Atlantic ports to induce people to settle there.

THE National Grange has adopted a resolution regretting that no adequate provision has been made by the Centennial Commission whereby the agricultural interests of the country can be fully and systematically represented at the Exposition, and asking such a modification of existing plans as may secure these ends.

THE House having passed a bill to pay out twenty millions of dollars by way of equalizing bounties, it cannot, now, in decency, refuse to pass the new Tax bill, providing the revenue necessary to meet this increased expenditure. Money must be raised before it can be spent. It is all right to equalize bounties; but taxation and expenditure must go hand in hand.

THE Buffalo *Commercial*, in a careful study of the spring business situation and probabilities, is of opinion that the coarse freight trade will be better than it was last season. This, however, will depend chiefly on the condition of the lumber markets and of the iron interests. Should a revival take place in these important industries, the carrying trade would doubtless be greatly benefited. But the present outlook in these directions is anything but encouraging.

THE Pacific Mail Steamship Company is merely playing a game of bluff in instructing its attorney to institute suits for the recovery of the moneys paid by IRWIN to SCHUMAKER and other parties in connection with the subsidy. They want to make it appear that the officers of the company had no knowledge that any more than ten thousand dollars of the company's funds were being used by IRWIN, but the flimsy pretense will deceive no one. That egg will not hatch.

THE Joliet, Illinois, Iron and Steel Company elected a new set of directors, last Friday, among whom was THOMAS BLAKELY, Esq., of Philadelphia. The meeting was one of great importance, heavy interests being at stake. The annual report of the outgoing President represented that the company, under his management, had been prosperous, and that the operations of the mill since October had been successful and profitable. The company have paying contracts on hand which will keep the mill in operation for six months.

WE LEARN from the Boston *Commercial Bulletin* that the plan for direct communication between that city and the coal fields of this State by way of Poughkeepsie, New York, is receiving more earnest consideration the more the subject is agitated. A committee of Boston capitalists recently visited Poughkeepsie and made a careful examination of the whole matter of the proposed bridge across the Hudson at that point, and their report is awaited with great and general interest. If the project is carried out it will undoubtedly prove of very considerable advantage to the anthracite coal districts in the eastern part of this State.

INCOMPETENCY and general fatuousness appear to be distinguishing traits of most of the "Reform" Legislatures that are now in session. The New Jersey Legislature, for instance, has now been in session over five weeks, and during the whole of that period has not passed a single bill of any real importance. The *Courier* states that had the "Reformers" been permitted to take their own course, the present Legislature would have proved the most disreputable ever imposed upon the people of that State. While there are a number of excellent and capable men among the Democratic members, they are utterly unable to control the "fellows of the baser sort," who made up their minds at the outset to "run the machine" for their own purposes. The general result of these costly "reform" experiments cannot but prove every way advantageous to the Republican party.

THE card of Mr. WASHBURNE, our Minister at Paris, in reply to a slander of the New York *Sun* upon him, shows how little protection a man's record really affords him. Mr. WASHBURNE, according to the statement of his card, found, on his arrival at Paris in 1869, the bonds of the Southern and El Paso roads upon the market, and FREMONT'S friends busily engaged in pressing them upon the attention of French capitalists. He at once exposed their fraudulent character, and advised the State Department about them. His correspondence was called for by Congress and printed. The parties who put the bonds on the market were furious with him for giving information as to their character, and FREMONT published a pamphlet on the subject arraigning him for discrediting a great American enterprise; yet, with all this excellent record in his favor, the New York *Sun* boldly charges him with having received ten thousand dollars for using his official influence in getting the FREMONT bonds placed upon the Paris Bourse! It is of no use, apparently, for a public man to be honest and upright. The more he does to keep his hands clean and his skirts clear, the more likely he is to be attacked by dishonesty and venality.

THE London *Spectator* had an able article, lately, upon the effects of exile upon pretenders, growing out of the return of ALFONSO to Spain. In nearly all of the fulsome addresses presented by the grandees to the restored monarch, the point was dwelt upon that his experience as an exile would be of great benefit to him as the future ruler of Spain. The theory of all these addresses is the common one that adversity teaches wholesome lessons; that exile, suffering and a bitter experience of life carry with them, necessarily, a chastening effect, subduing the evil passions, and teaching that knowledge of man which is so essential to one who would rule his people well. But, common as the theory is, has it any foundation in fact? Has there been a single instance in which an exiled prince has returned to his country better qualified, by his experience, to rule successfully? The answer, we fear, must be in the negative.

CHARLES II., of England, did not return from exile a better or wiser man. His gracious and courteous manner had probably been intensified; but he returned fuller than ever of his notions of the divine right of kings, and preferred to go back to the days when kings could do as they pleased, to going forward into the policy of restraining kingly privileges. CHARLES X., of France, was, after he returned, the same CHARLES X. that had been exiled, and became so bad that he was finally driven out into a second and more enduring exile. His successor had, likewise, been an exile; but while LOUIS PHILIPPE had profited to a partial extent, by his rough contact with the world, his previous sufferings from poverty made him greedy, as a monarch, and he wrecked his administration in his intense eagerness to gather up riches and provide for his family. He, too, was forced into a second exile, and all because he was unable or unwilling to profit by the teachings of adversity, when they fell upon him. The school of adversity is one into which no one enters, of his own accord; and this probably accounts for the little value attached by its scholars to the lessons they learn there.

That ALFONSO, a young man of seventeen, will be any the better of the experiences of his exile, we do not believe. He has been taught, by his tutors, in all that time, that he was the rightful King of Spain, and that he was kept out of his rights by usurpation and force. He goes back, therefore, with a sense that he is going back to what belongs to him, and with a conviction that it will be his duty to punish those who have been instrumental in keeping him out of his right. The years of extreme youth are not the years for learning the bitter lessons of experience; they are, rather, the years in which the recollections of such experience sour a young man, and render him vindictive and cruel when better days come. The grandees of Spain, who spout flowery addresses at him, on his return, dwelling with unction on the good that his exile must have done him, will learn, in a short time, that the storehouse of the past is a poor one from which to draw serviceable materials for the present. They would have done far better with an entirely new prince than with one of an old line, and belonging to a house notorious for its inability either to learn or forget.

THE ELECTION TO-DAY.

The Republicans of Pittsburgh and Allegheny city are called upon to-day to choose members of Councils and ward officers, and it behooves every member of the party to vote for the candidates regularly nominated. Trustworthy and reliable Republicans have been chosen to represent the interests of the people in Councils, and to serve them in the various other positions to be filled, and nothing whatever is to be gained by supporting Democratic candidates, no matter what pretext may be urged in their behalf. Our party friends should remember the lesson of last fall, and avoid the folly of helping Democrats into power, even in municipal offices. The frantic cries for reform, and the persistent reiteration of "fraud and corruption," in the Democratic press, previous to the last election, doubtless influenced many well meaning Republicans to vote against the candidates of their own party; but the events which have transpired since the election must have opened the eyes of all such to the folly and danger of trusting to Democratic promises or pledges. Emboldened by the temporary successes of last fall, the leaders of that party are keeping up the same hue and cry against the Republican party, and wherever they have come into power their acts have given the lie to their promises of reform. They have no conception of reform beyond ousting Republicans, and making the most out of the offices for themselves. The great howl raised about increased taxation in this city, some months ago, was to prepare the way for getting Democrats into Councils, and thus afford an opportunity for raising it all over the country that in this Republican stronghold the Democracy were gaining ground. The fact that taxation is not to be materially increased this year, notwithstanding the large additional revenue required for water works interest and sinking fund, shows that the Republican City Councils are not merely promising to reduce, but have actually reduced the running expenses in a very material degree. It also shows how baseless was the allegations, so often repeated in the opposition press, that taxes were to be increased thirty per cent. The whole matter may be briefly summed up: The Democrats will continue to rail against the Republican party for all manner of imaginary abuses; will promise all kinds of reform when they get into power; and will use every endeavor, in local as well as general elections, to draw votes from the Republican ranks. But their outspoken sympathy with the White Leaguers of the South, and their denunciation of every effort to establish good government in the yet insurrectionary States, have convinced Republicans that the sole object of the Democracy is to get into office for the sake of the emoluments, and to have an opportunity to reward friends and punish enemies. In the local contests of to-day, therefore, Republicans should stand by their organization, and not give aid and comfort to the enemy upon any pretext whatever.

PERSONAL.

Major J. W. Powell, of Colorado fame, has had an offer of $10,000 for a year's work in the lecture field.

Miss Sterling, an American contralto, has become a great favorite in England. She has a sterling voice, and of course there must be money in it, at the present rate of exchange.

Abe Bunter, the colored resident of Williamstown, Mass., whose ram-like or butting propensities gave him his nick-name, and whose obituary is now being extensively circulated throughout the country, has taken it upon himself to deny the report of his death.

A somewhat singular coincidence in the matter of names will be noticeable in the Senate of the Forty-fourth Congress. There will be two Camerons, two Jones', and two Morrills, and, with the exception of a *t*, two Johnsons: Senator Johnston, of Virginia, and Senator Johnson, of Tennessee.

The American revivalists, Messrs. Moody and Sankey, are carrying everything before them in England. At Sheffield they bagged no less than 604 converts, and at Manchester they received the unqualified public approbation of the Bishop of the diocese. They are now at Birmingham, on their way to London, where great preparations are being made for their reception. So far their march has been a series of successes.

Mrs. Minnie Sherman-Fitch visited the New York Custom House on Saturday, and inspected her gift from the Khedive. A large party of friends attended her, and the young bride arrayed herself in the glittering diamonds to the admiration and delight of those around her. The Collector's parlor was slightly darkened, so that the full effect of the gems was seen, and after all eyes were sated, the costly necklace was returned to the Collector's safe.

The trial of John D. Lee, who is charged with devising and carrying into execution the terrible Mountain Meadow massacre seventeen years ago, in Utah, will take place during the April term of the Second District Court at Beaver, Utah. Since Lee's arrest he charges the whole infamy of the slaughter of the emigrants upon other Mormon prophets. It is believed that the trial will show the active participation of the whole Mormon hierarchy in the massacre.

The Free Pipe Bill—Views of an Oil Operator.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

As an oil producer, I was glad to see your paper open its columns to an article in regard to the free pipe bill extension to Allegheny county. It is a notorious fact that the railroad men have combined to put an extortionate freight on oil, and further have so discriminated as to render it impossible for a producer to ship his own oil or to sell the same in the East at any price. A prominent producer shipped a lot to New York which he had pumped from his own wells, sold the same at New York prices, and after deducting freight expense he had paid his oil for nothing, and was in debt for freight and transportation a considerable sum for each barrel shipped; and yet these railroads are common carriers, asking protection from the rapacity of the "Pittsburgh Board of Trade" and the producers at large.

As a producer, I have now a small well yielding an average of eight barrels per day, at the following rates: Expense of pumping, eighty-five dollars per month, or three dollars per day average. Previous to the October rise a small profit was realized even with the tax of freight lines, etc. During October, November and December the well ran in debt steadily, (though she was, as we say, "well handled." The New York production during January has made her remunerative again, and my hopes that the free pipe bill would take off a part of the tax on oil has made me come to consider that I might possibly get my own out of the enterprise yet. Mark, if you please, the tax put on the well by the railroad combination: Oil pays $1.75 freight to New York, and sells at seven and a half cents per gallon: oil pays eighty cents freight from Pittsburgh to Baltimore, and sells at seven and one-half cents per gallon, leaving a difference of ninety-five cents per barrel discrimination against me, or eight dollars and fifty-five cents tax paid to the combination directly against my interest. It may be said that the difference is in the pipe lines. I do not think so. I ship oil from another well in the Conduit, and pay no more than in other lines. All that producers ask is that the Pittsburgh markets shall be as free for crude as for grain or any other staple, and that we shall be freed from a tax or toll of one hundred per cent. on the value of our staple to keep it out of the Pittsburgh market.

PRODUCER.

THE Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL has displayed commendable enterprise, industry, and ability in compiling its sixth annual review of the business operations of that city. It fills more than eleven of the capacious columns of that journal, and is replete with instructive facts and comments. Our Pittsburgh correspondent makes a number of extracts relating to transportation, mining operations, etc., which are worthy of attentive perusal. The general conclusions reached are encouraging.—*Railway World.*

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

HARPER'S HOUSEHOLD EDITION OF DICKENS' WORKS. A Tale of Two Cities. Published by Harper & Brothers, New York. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

We have spoken heretofore in the highest terms of this beautiful edition of Dickens, and need only state that the text is clear, illustrations profuse and elegant, price low, with rich chased covers of green cloth. The story, it will be remembered, was first suggested to Mr. Dickens while he and his children and friends were acting in Wilkie Collins' drama of "The Frozen Deep." It is a story of startling interest and is pictured in Mr. Dickens' inimitable style.

AFTER DARK, AND OTHER STORIES. By Wilkie Collins, author of "Man and Wife," etc. With illustrations. Published by Harper & Brothers, New York. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

"After Dark" forms one of the series of "Harper's Illustrated Library Edition" of Wilkie Collins' novels. It is a volume that will be of peculiar interest to the numerous admirers of this gifted novelist, who has, as he states in his preface, "taken some pains to string together the various stories contained in this volume on a single thread of interest," not having been used before. We venture the remark that however charming some of the novels have been to the numerous constituency of Mr. Collins, these pithy stories will be read with relish, as they reveal his magic power as a writer of fiction. This edition is an admirable one for library purposes, and the cost light, compared with some editions of other houses.

THE FLAG OF TRUCE. By the author of "The Wide, Wide World." Published by Robert Carter & Brothers, New York. For sale by W. W. Waters, Penn avenue, Pittsburgh.

It is a rare thing for a story to combine so many excellent features as this one. In fact, the series, of which this is the fourth volume, of Miss Warner's stories illustrative of the Lord's Prayer, is a gallery of striking pictures of divine truth. This gifted writer seems to have an insight into the wants of human nature, which eminently fits her for illustrating great scriptural truths in story form. The petition, "Thy will be Done," is beautifully illustrated in the case of the little girl who wanted to do something for the cause of Christ, and the hinderances that arose in her pathway. It presents a picture of the spirit that should prevail in every heart, to view the providence of God in the spirit of hopefulness. It is an excellent book for the family circle.

PHANTOM OF THE FOREST; a Tale of the Bloody Ground. By Emerson Bennett. Published by Ronsen, Claxton & Haffilfinger, Philadelphia. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

A story of the most glowing type, and just such as the plot and characters would produce. The scene is Kentucky, and the time close to the Revolutionary war. It pictures the hero artist-trapper Colburn, and Isaline Holcombe, the heroine. They pass through hair-breadth escapes among the Indians, and finally are restored to each other's society. While in these perils the Phantom of the Forest, who proves to be a poor crazy girl, by her unearthly screeches at different times, delivers them from danger. Finally the Phantom regains her reason, enters society and is married. It is a story of daring and exciting interest. Mr. Bennett possesses a florid style, which is calculated to deepen the coloring of his writings. As a writer he has given evidences of talent, and is one of the popular writers of the day.

CLEFTS OF THE ROCK; or the Believer's Grounds of Confidence in Christ. By Rev. J. R. Macduff, D.D. Published by Robert Carter & Brothers. For sale by W. W. Waters, Pittsburgh.

This valuable work treats of the offices of Christ, and shows his divine character, and the work done for the repentant sinner, hiding him in the "Clefts of the Rock." The work contains seventeen chapters, setting forth the various great truths connected with the person, work, and intercession of Christ. The touching story of the Highland mother, whose life was sacrificed in sheltering an infant in the clefts of a rock, admirably introduces the short sermons. It is a book that cannot fail to impress Christians to active duty of the most aggressive form. The beautiful metaphors and illustrations, which are seen in the eloquent utterances of Dr. Duff, are calculated to impress the reader in a striking manner. It is a most excellent book for the family, and for the library.

BRIC-A-BRAC SERIES. Personal Reminiscences of Barham, Harness and Holder. Edited by Richard Henry Stoddard. Published by Scribner, Armstrong & Co., New York. For sale by R. S. Davis & Co., Pittsburgh.

This delightful series, edited by that charming writer, Stoddard, maintains its high position, in a literary point. Every volume that has appeared gives evidence of the rare taste of the editor. This volume is a dainty one, as it gives a view of two famous clergymen and a distinguished writer. The associations of this trio were among the most gifted writers of the age, and represented all departments of literature. Barham, as the author of Ingoldsby Legends, associate of Theodore Hook and Sidney Smith, and other wits and celebrities, was a great favorite. Harness was no less worthy and known as the literary executor of Miss Milford; while Hodder, private secretary of Thackeray, and friend of Douglas Jerrold, is worthy of the fame awarded him. The volume sparkles with wit and brilliant passages. It is robed in beautiful attire, like its predecessors.

FOR BETTER OR WORSE. A Book for some Men and all Women. By Jennie Cunningham Croly (Jennie June). Published by Carleton, Shepard, Boston. For sale by R. S. Davis & Co., Pittsburgh.

There are many things in this sprightly volume that we are in accord with the author, whilst there are views that are too liberal for our notions of the sacredness of the marriage vow. The style sometimes is too much of the jaunty kind, but this is perhaps the result of habit more than anything else. The topics chiefly dwelt upon are Maidenhood, Education and Qualifications for Marriage, Engagement, Duty of Wife, Husband and Parents, Marriage Considered as a Partnership for and without Money, For a Home, The Modern Bridal, Future Husband, Divorce, etc. Great stress is placed upon the right conditions of marriage by Mrs. Croly, and she thinks one of the evils is the want of a uniform law for all States, and advocates laws to regulate the the terms upon which men and women come together. While she does not advocate *free divorce* as a remedy for the evils which frequently exist, yet she seems to favor *compulsory* divorce for habitual drunkenness and criminal habits. As we stated in the outstart Mrs. Croly has penned some noble sentiments in favor of marriage and she seems all through the work to maintain the sacredness of the relation and the good results of wedded life.

THE CHRISTIAN IN THE WORLD. By Rev. D. W. Faunce. Published by Roberts Brothers, Willis. For sale by J. R. Weldin & Co., Pittsburgh.

It is seldom that a prize essay upon a religious subject has given such general satisfaction as this excellent one. It is full, complete, exhaustive, scriptural, progressive, glowing, and written in a captivating style of language. This is known as the "Fletcher Prize Essay," provided by the will of the late Hon. Richard Fletcher, of Boston, to which was awarded the sum of $500, being the income of the fund left in charge of Dartmouth College to be appropriated biennially for that purpose. This is the first essay produced of the Fletcher foundation. It opens with a clear statement of the Christian religion and how it is to be practiced in the world. Then he elucidates the principles of Christian faith. Throughout the treatese, it recognizes practical religion in the duties done for love for Christ and man, and represents the Christian in the world as being more than a mere sentimentalist latest or a spasmodic emotionalist. The chapters entitled "The Christian in Prayer," "The Christian in his Recreations" and "The Christian in Business" are especially commended for their ability. We hope the work will be widely disseminated.

WHAT A BOY! What shall we do with Him? What will he do for Himself? Who is to blame for the Consequences? By Julia A. Wilbur. Published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. For sale by J. R. Weldin & Co., Pittsburgh.

This is really a delightful story that everybody in the household will enjoy, the "Coming Boy" as one of the problems to solve. The questions are stated with such precision that the gist of the story is revealed. To the first query we have some wise suggestions how to give the proper bent to the boy to make him useful in society. If left to himself the outcome will depend upon the surroundings and the influences used for his good. The consequences for the failure of a boy are sometimes a legacy that is fearful to contemplate. There is a vein of practical sense running through the story, which will be food for old and young readers, and the charming love scenes render the book one of absorbing interest, and the reader must be dull enough not to relish the book from beginning to end.

GRACE FOR GRACE. Letters of Rev. William James. Published by Dodd & Mead, New York. For sale by W. W. Waters, 190 Penn avenue, Pittsburgh.

These charming letters of Dr. James, who died in Albany, N. Y., in 1835, reveal the sweet spirit of this sainted man. There is a deep current of entire consecration manifest in every subject contained in the series. As the preface truthfully declares, the "theme is the life of God in the soul, as it is imparted, nourished, strengthened and perfected by His abounding grace." His vivid pictures of divine truth impress the mind of the reader, and show that he possessed versatile talents, rigid culture and unobtrusive piety. We are told he devoted his wealth to philanthropic objects, and thus labored and gave liberally to build up the cause of Christ. These papers are arranged in four parts, to illustrate "The Gift of Grace," "Growth in Grace," "Fruits of Grace," "Triumphs of Grace." Brief extracts from his life are added, which increase the value of the work.

THE LIFE OF JOHN PAUL JONES. By John S. C. Abbott. Published by Dodd & Mead, New York. For sale by W. W. Waters, Pittsburgh.

This volume forms one of the series of "American Pioneers and Patriots," publishing by this house. The impression of many has been that the gallant captain of the "Bon Homme Richard" was nothing but a reckless adventurer, and that he possessed neither culture or character to give him a standing as a patriot. This volume will go far towards removing wrong impressions, and giving him a place among the saviors of our country in its feebleness. Facts are revealed in this story that Admiral Jones was regarded with great favor by Washington and Jefferson, and facts are detailed to sustain the view. Youthful readers will enjoy its reading, and the verdict be that it is one of the best of the series.

EXPOSITORY NOTES ON THE BOOK OF JOSHUA. By Dr. Howard Crosby, Chancellor of the University of the city of New York. Published by Robert Carter & Brothers, New York. For sale by W. W. Waters, Pittsburgh.

Dr. Crosby is a man of very decided opinions, extensive learning and deep culture, and a work of this character will possess unusual interest to Bible students and ministers, especially as the Book of Joshua is in review by Sunday schools. Without attempting an undue show of learning, the notes indicate that his conclusions are like "beaten oil"—the product of research and study. They are clothed in simple language. The author states the design of the book "to put in a succinct form such explanations of the text as may help the reader to a clear understanding, without annoying him with the details of criticism."

STARTING OUT. By Rev. Alex. Clark, author of "Sermons in Trees," and the gifted editor of the *Methodist Recorder*. Published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. For sale by Rev. James Robinson, Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh.

The writer of this charming story has added lustre to his name as a writer, by the publication of "Starting Out." The book is of that class that impresses the mind of the young reader with the excellencies of a moral life, and the lessons taught are salutory and instructive. The chief thought, running through the story like a golden thread is, that the only safe way for youth to secure the highest good and greatest happiness, is to be under divine influences, and that no other modes of restraint, but as are found in the Christian life, are successful. The construction of the narrative bears the impress of the picturesque style of the author, who has the happy faculty of clothing his thoughts in expressive and chaste English. Mr. Clark possesses a facile pen, and gives evidence of rare genius and wonderful versatility as a writer. We are glad to know that "Starting Out" is selling rapidly, as it richly deserves.

SOME NOVELS, ETC.

THE HORRORS OF PARIS, by Alexander Dumas, published by T. B. Peterson & Brothers, Philadelphia, and for sale by J. R. Weldin & Co., is a sequal to and continuation of "The Mohigians of Paris." It is a novel of exciting interest.

EULOGY ON CHIEF JUSTICE CHASE, delivered by William M. Evarts, before the Alumni of Dartmouth College, at Hanover, June 24, 1874, and published by J. B. Parker, Hanover, N. H. An able address on the character of a pure jurist.

WILLIAM HENRY, dramatizing Mrs. A. M. Diaz's truthful and admirable story of New England life, by Mrs. Geo. L. Chaney. Published by James R. Osgood & Co., Boston, and for sale by R. S. Davis & Co., of this city. Price twenty-five cents.

INSECTS OF THE POND AND STREAM. By A. S. Packard, Jr. Published by Estes & Lauriat, Boston.

This serial belongs to Half-Hour Recreations in Natural History. "The Transmission of Sound by the Atmosphere," by John Tyndall, published by Estes & Lauriat, Boston. There is also embodied within the same covers a treatise on "Gigantic Cuttle-Fish," of the "Half-Hour Recreations in Popular Science."

CHECKMATE. TOO MUCH ALONE, two paper covered novels, we received from Estes & Lauriat, Boston. Without presuming to give a full notice of these two novels at this time, we may remark in passing that these works of fiction are hightoned in style, and elegantly printed.

OHIO NEWS.

The small-pox has broken out at Logan.

A Madison county Granger has a 240 acre cornfield.

Ichabod Jones, of Noble county, is 103 years old.

The fat hogs of Union county have nearly all been marketed.

There is no hope for the peach crop in the region about Lancaster.

In the township of Marietta, Washington county, there are 204 persons over seventy years of age.

Rev. J. M. Frazier, of Oberlin, will soon assume the postorate of the Congregational church at Mecca, Trumbull county.

The grand jury of Columbiana county has pronounced the county jail defective, and recommended the building of a new one.

Mr. James Stewart, one of the oldest and most highly esteemed residents of Wellsville, died on the 10th inst., aged seventy-one years.

The new Methodist Episcopal church at Tiffin—St. Paul's—will be dedicated on Sunday, the 21st inst. Bishop Foster will preach the dedicatory sermon.

Isaac Hay, breaking his leg by a fall from a fence, near Columbus, dragged himself a mile and a half over the frozen ground before he reached human aid.

Miss Alice Martin, of Bridgeport, died on the 12th inst., from the effects of an abortion, produced in Steubenville, a few days before. No arrests have yet been made.

The London *Enterprise* says: John Wildman, residing near Selma, has lost about one hundred head of hogs by cholera recently. The hogs were purchased of a party in Highland county.

The Board of Trustees of Muskingum College, at Zanesville, want to transfer the control of that institution to some denomination, and negotiations to this end are pending with the United Presbyterian Synod of Ohio. The guaranty desired is $40,000.

Driven to desperation by the scarcity of news, the Youngstown *Register* tells of a chicken that got frozen solid, up to its neck, in a mud-puddle, where it remained all night; but on being discovered the next day and dug out, it became as lively as ever and now calmly paws the dunghill as of yore.

Charles Dryden, son to the County Treasurer of Montgomery county, is said to have stolen from the Treasurer's safe a package containing $5,000, and in company with two other young men decamped. Mr. Dryden had the utmost confidence in his son, gave him a position in his office and allowed him a good salary.

S. S. Campbell, of Cadiz, a well-known fine wool grower, recently sold to H. P. Sellers and S. H. Welles, of New Lexington, Perry county, ten ewes at $60 each, one at $110, and one at $50. He also sold to W. B. Law, a noted Granger of Masters ville, four ewes at $75 each, making in all sixteen head, for the sum of $1,150.

The Kansas Legislature is debating a bill declaring that any State, district, county or township officer who shall "be in a state of intoxication produced by strong drink," or who shall "bet any money or property on any game of chance," shall be deprived of his office.

That sciolistic free trade statistician, David A. Wells, has a new financial theory. He proposes that twenty-six millions of dollars in greenbacks shall be burned annually—first slaying the public credit and then cremating it.

That free love community at Valcour, Vermont, is on the verge of final dissolution. The President, Secretary and all the members, except five, have signed a paper declaring the whole arrangement a stupendous fraud.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The puddle forge at the Rensselaer mills, at Troy, New York, will start up to-morrow.

Our State still makes one-half of the pig iron produced in the country, Ohio and New York coming next.

Great complaint is made in Kansas that relief goods are unfairly distributed. Deadbeats generally get the lion's share.

The Burden Iron Works of Troy advertised for puddlers to take the place of strikers, and are getting all they want.

A new Republican paper is to be started in Norwalk, Ohio, about the first of March, to be called the Huron County *Chronicle*.

Next to the Mont Cenis tunnel, the Hoosac is the longest in the world, being only 320 feet less than five miles in length.

Paine's "Age of Reason" has become a very favorite book among the Hindoos of late, says a writer from an Eastern mission.

Democratic Texas is educationally belated, only a little over one-fourth of its children of school age receiving instruction.

Our own Commonwealth leads all other States in applications under the free banking provisions of the last two finance acts of Congress.

If you don't like the weather you can go to Melbourne in Australia, where, at the latest dates, the thermometer was 112 deg. Fahrenheit in the shade.

The Delaware peach growers are moving for the remission of the tax of $5 in abundant seasons and $7 50 in scanty seasons, per car load of peaches.

The East India Government is profiting by the terrible warning of the famine to introduce a new system of irrigation. This question is one of great interest.

The Chicago Temperance Alliance is engaged in the very sensible business of trying to persuade employers not to pay off their men until Monday morning.

Over a million and a half of hogs have been killed and packed in Chicago thus far this season, and yet there is no perceptible diminution of the population.

There were 204 persons killed and 978 injured by railroad accidents in this country last year, against 276 and 1,283 in 1873. This is a decrease of about one-fourth.

Notwithstanding her prohibitory law Massachusetts proposes to establish an immense asylum for inebriates. The subject is under consideration by the Legislature.

A lucky Bostonian last week sold for about twenty-five thousand dollars an interest in a patent that was purchased by him, a few months ago, for six hundred dollars.

New York city has sued the National Broadway bank to recover the little amount of $6,804,000 claimed to have been paid out of the city's deposits without authority.

The Sacramento river is steadily losing its capacity as a navigable stream by being filled with the slum that comes from the mines. The harbor of San Diego is also filling up.

Wendell Phillips is a courageous man, but if he wants to be quite sure of dying a natural death he had better decline Senator Gordon's invitation to visit the Southern States.

The colored clergymen of the United States have appointed Monday, March 1st, a day for fasting and prayer for securing to their race the full enjoyment of the rights of citizenship.

The rapid increase in the Philadelphia grain trade may be inferred from the fact that 4,806,574 bushels were received last year via the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad, an increase of 1,885,495 bushels over 1873.

An industrial missionary settlement is to be established on the borders of Lake Navasso, to be called Livingstonia, after the great African traveler. The prospects of the undertaking are said to be quite promising.

The San Francisco School Board don't think much of the Lord's Prayer. That body has just decided that Divine petition to be partisan and sectarian, and the use of it in the schools contrary to the spirit of the school law.

There is to be started in March, at Scottsville, Allen county, Kentucky, a journal to be called the *Argus*, which will be the first newspaper ever published in that county. And yet Allen has been a county ever since 1815.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.
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CHARTERED IN 1868.
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W. W. McCLELLAND, Principal,
And Teacher of Penmanship.
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TEACHERS' CLASS 10 to 12 A. M. SATURDAYS.
Persons desiring to fit themselves for Teachers can obtain a thorough knowledge of Plain and Ornamental Penmanship. 1-Thu

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Route No. 513—Via Washington, Richmond, Charlotte, Atlanta, Macon and Jesup.
Route No. 514—Via Washington, Lynchburg, Charlotte, Augusta and Savannah.
Route No. 515—Via Washington, Richmond, Lynchburg, Bristol, Atlanta, Macon and Jesup.
Route No. 516—Via Washington, Richmond, Augusta, Tennessee and Savannah.
Route No. 517—Via Washington, Richmond, Wilmington, Augusta, Tennessee and Savannah.
Route No. 518—Via Washington, Richmond, Wilmington, Augusta and Savannah.
Route No. 519—Via Washington, Richmond, Charlotte, Atlanta, Macon and Jesup.
Route No. 520—Via Washington, Lynchburg, Bristol, Atlanta, Macon and Jesup.
Route No. 521—Via Washington, Richmond, Augusta, Tennessee and Savannah.
All of the above-described tickets return by same route, and are sold at following THROUGH RATES.

New York	$50 00	Trenton	$47 75
Jersey City	50 00	Harrisburg	45 50
Newark	50 00	Williamsport	40 50
Elizabeth	49 75	Altoona	39 75
Rahway	49 50	Pittsburgh	32 75
New Brunswick	49 00		

Except Routes No. 516 and No. 517, which are not sold at Harrisburg, Williamsport, Altoona and Pittsburgh.
Variable Route Tickets are sold at New York, Jersey City, Harrisburg, Williamsport, Altoona and Pittsburgh, as follows:
Excursion No. 516—Going by Route 510, returning by Route 512, $10 additional.
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Excursion Tickets and information of Routes can be obtained at the following Ticket Offices:
Boston—No. 77 and 79 Washington street.
New York—No. 1 Astor House, No. 526 Broadway, No. 944 Broadway, and at Depots, foot of Desbrosses and foot of Courtlandt streets.
Jersey City—Depot, Newark—182 Market street and at Depot. Elizabeth—Depot. Rahway—Depot. New Brunswick—Depot. Trenton—Depot.
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Manufacturer of STEAM ENGINES, PULLEYS, SHAFTING, HANGERS, &c., Rolling Mill and Machine Castings. Sash Weights, &c., &c. Also a number of New and Second-hand ENGINES AND BOILERS FOR SALE.

186, 188 and 190 Lacock and 37 Sandusky Streets, ALLEGHENY CITY, PA.

STEEL MANUFACTURERS.

STEEL CASTINGS,

UNDER HAINSWORTH'S PATENT.

We are making Steel Castings, Smooth, True, Free from Porosity, capable of resisting Very High Tension, can be Forged or Welded easily as Bar Steel, and Stronger as Forged Steel. Send for Circular.

PITTSBURGH STEEL CASTING CO.,

Twenty-sixth and Railroad streets, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Black Diamond Steel Works.

PARK, BROTHER & CO.,

Manufacturers of All Descriptions of

STEEL.

Office and Warehouse: Thirtieth, Thirty-first and Railroad streets, Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh Steel Works.

ANDERSON & WOODS

SUCCESSORS TO ANDERSON, COOK & CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

Best Refined Cast Steel

Of Every Description; Also, BEST

Refined German Plow & Spring Steel

CORNER ROSS AND FIRST AVENUE,

PITTSBURGH, PA.

Sheffield Steel Works.

SINGER, NIMICK & CO.,

Manufacturers o All Descriptions of

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BEST REFINED TOOL CAST STEEL.

CAST AND GERMAN PLOW AND SPRING STEEL.

CIRCULAR AND LONG SAW PLATES.

ELLIPTIC, PLATFORM and SEAT SPRINGS.

AXLES AND STEEL TIRE.

STEEL FIRE BOX AND BOILER PLATES.

STEEL FORGINGS MADE TO ORDER.

88 Water and 100 First Ave., Pittsburgh

GLASS MANUFACTURERS.

PITTSBURGH FLINT GLASS WORKS

ESTABLISHED 1808.

BAKEWELL, PEARS & CO.,

Factory, Office and Warehouse, BINGHAM STREET, between Eighth and Ninth streets, South Side, Pittsburgh.

J. P. PEARS, B. BAKEWELL, J. B. B. CAMPBELL.

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SLATE ROOFING.

Aiken & Co.

CORNER

Liberty and Eleventh Sts.

Opposite the Grain Elevator, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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Sole Agents for the Celebrated

Chapman Slate.

GRAVEL ROOFING.

Roofs Repaired.

W. B. LUPTON & CO.,

854 PENN AVE.

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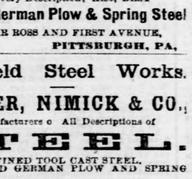
Roofer and Dealer in



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Successors to Waring & King,

Commission Merchants in Petroleum and its Products,

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Philadelphia address, WARING BROTHERS & Co., 20 Walnut street.

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ARCHITECT,

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Over Girard Savings Bank, Allegheny, Pa.

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ST. CLAIR BANKING COMPANY,

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Accounts of Banks, Bankers, Corporations, Firms & Individuals Received.

Certificates of Deposit issued with interest.

Collections Made at Lowest Rates.

Investment Securities a Specialty.

Governments, Gold, Stocks and Bonds bought and sold on Commission.

Draw Bills on London, Ireland and the Continent.

ROBERT ARTHURS, President.

L. HALSEY WILLIAMS, Cashier.

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IN WALL STREET.

Money invested in PUTS, CALLS and DOUBLE PRIVILEGES has paid 200 per cent. profit the past month. Small or large amounts pay proportionately. The combined operators protect themselves with these contracts, and also use them as Capital to buy and sell Stocks against. Pamphlet giving full explanation sent on application. Stocks Bought and Sold on Three Per Cent. Margin.

DARRAGH, BRIDGEMAN & Co

BANKERS AND BROKERS,

52 & 56 Broadway and 7 Exchange Court,

NEW YORK.

Postoffice Box 5026.

BANKS AND BANKERS.

People's Savings Bank

OF PITTSBURGH.

CAPITAL.....$300,000

INCORPORATED 1866.

No. 81 FOURTH AVENUE

Next below the Safe Deposit Company.

HENRY LLOYD.....President.

WM. REA.....Vice President.

TRUSTEES:

Henry Lloyd, E. P. Jones,

Wm. Rea, Hugh Ferguson,

Edward Gregg, R. H. Hartley,

Thos. Wightman, A. Bonnell,

J. K. Moorhead.

SIDNEY F. VON BONNHORST, Secretary and Treasurer.

Six Per Cent. Interest allowed on Time Deposits. Investments made in Government and Real Estate Securities.

Bank open daily, except Sundays, from 9 o'clock A. M. to 4 o'clock P. M., and on Saturday Evenings, from 6 to 9 o'clock.

The Tradesmen's National Bank

HAS REMOVED TO ITS

New Banking Rooms,

Cor. Wood St. and Fourth Ave.

Where its Officers will be pleased to see all its old customers and such new ones as may favor it with their patronage.

ALEXANDER BRADLEY.....President.

CYRUS CLARKE, JR.....Vice President.

WILLIAM VANKIRK.....Cashier.

ALLEGHENY NATIONAL BANK,

OF PITTSBURGH,

NO. 33 FIFTH AVENUE

CAPITAL STOCK - - $500,000

J. W. COOK.....President.

R. W. MACKEY.....Vice President.

W. McCANDLESS.....Cashier.

CENTRAL BANK,

No. 47 BANK BLOCK, Pittsburgh.

CAPITAL.....$100,000.

Bank of Discount and Deposit.

Stockholders Individually Liable.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON TIME DEPOSITS.

Collections made on all the principal cities of the United States and Canadas.

DIRECTORS.

Thomas Fawcett, Madison Bailey,

D. W. C. Carroll, J. P. Dennison,

James H. Hopkins, George Cochran,

James Bown, Abram Hayes,

J. H. Walter, Paul H. Hacke,

James Wilson.

THOMAS FAWCETT, President.

MADISON BAILEY, Vice President.

J. W. DAVIES, Cashier.

M. HUNNINGS, Assistant Cashier. tvths

THE SAFE DEPOSIT CO.

OF PITTSBURGH,

Chartered by Special Act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, for the

Safe Keeping of Valuables

UNDER GUARANTEE, AND THE

Renting of Safes

IN ITS

FIRE AND BURGLAR-PROOF VAULTS

BUILDING AND OFFICE:

No. 83 FOURTH AVENUE, Pittsburgh, Pa

Office Hours—From 8 o'clock A. M. to 5 o'clock P. M.

President.....HENRY LLOYD.

Vice President.....EDWARD GREGG.

Secretary and Treasurer.....WM. LITTLE.

HART, CAUGHEY & CO.,

BANKERS AND BROKERS,

CORNER FOURTH AVE. AND WOOD STREET

PITTSBURGH, PA.,

(Successors to HANNA, HART & CO.,)

Dealers in Exchange, Coin, Coupons, &c.

Particular attention paid to the Purchase and Sale of GOVERNMENT BONDS.

SIGHT DRAFTS ON LONDON.

B. K. JAMISON, W. M. STEWART, J. H. KERR.

ESTABLISHED 1855.

B. K. Jamison & Co.

BANKERS,

N. W. Cor. Third and Chestnut Sts., Phila.

Dealers in Pittsburgh Bonds and all other investment Securities.

Loans negotiated on marketable collaterals at current rates.

Deposits of banks and Bankers received, subject to check at sight. Interest allowed according to agreement.

STEAMSHIPS.

AMERICAN LINE.

Mail Steamships.

Only Line Carrying the American Flag

Sailing Every Thursday from PHILADELPHIA

For Queenstown and Liverpool.

CABIN, INTERMEDIATE AND STEERAGE

Accommodations Unsurpassed.

Rates as low as any other First-Class Line.

PETER WRIGHT & SONS, General Agents Philadelphia.

Louis Riesser, 122 Smithfield street, Thomas E. Watt, 78 Fifth avenue, Thomas Jones, 62 Chatham street, S. G. Murphy, 78 Fourth ave., Pittsburgh. Wm. Semple, 165, 167 and 169 Federal street, Allegheny City.

White Star U. S. Mail Line

THE FASTEST FLEET AFLOAT,

Between New York and Liverpool

Calling at CORK HARBOR both Ways, Booking Passengers to and from all parts. Sailing every THURSDAY from Liverpool, and every SATURDAY from White Star Wharf, Fayonia Ferry, Jersey City.

OCEANIC.....Capt. Bristow.

BALTIC.....Capt. Kennedy.

REPUBLIC.....Capt. Cleasby.

CELTIC.....Capt. Thompson.

ADRIATIC.....Capt. Perry.

Passenger Accommodation Unrivalled,

Saloon, $80. Gold, (Sailings after April 1, $100 Gold) Steerage $30 Currency. Prepaid Certificates, $32. Drafts in sums to suit.

For passage apply at 19 Broadway, N. Y.

T. H. MURRAY, No. 7 Ninth street.

F. H. CUSHING, Cor. 4th and North streets.

MAX SCHAMBERG, 163 Smithfield street.

E. McCORMICK, 2127 Sarah street, South Side.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

LAING & McKALLIP,

DEALERS IN

GRAIN, FLOUR, FEED,

Baled Hay, &c.

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PHŒNIX, LOUISVILLE and ROSENDALE HYDRAULIC CEMENTS.

Calcined Plaster, White Lime.

SOLE AGENTS OF CELEBRATED

WILKENSBARRE ANTHRACITE COAL

347 Liberty Street,

PITTSBURGH, PA.

200 BARRELS CHOICE APPLES,

25 barrels prime Navy Beans,

50 barrels choice Silver-skinned Onions,

150 bags Timothy Seed,

75 bags Clover Seed,

20 tubs Roll Butter,

150 jars Cider daily, (gallons).

50 barrels 3-year-old Vinegar, 13c ₱ gal.

HENRY REA, JR., Liberty street, opp. Smithfield.

CALDWELL & CO.,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

AND DEALERS IN

GRAIN, HAY AND PRODUCE,

205 Liberty St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Orders for shipment and consignment solicited and promptly attended to.

FLOUR.

Best Brands of Winter and Spring Wheat Flour,

In store and to arrive. For Sale by

D. WALLACE.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, February 15, 1875.

There is a great deal being said and written on the subject of the government sinking fund and the construction of the law which created this fund. The interpretation of that law is of importance, as on it hinges the whole question of taxation.

In Judge Richardson's book on the public debt, page 82, is given a copy of the act of February 25, 1862, which provides as follows:

"That all duties on imported goods shall be paid in coin, or in notes payable on demand heretofore authorized to be issued and by law receivable in payment of public dues, and the coin so paid shall be set apart as a special fund, and shall be applied as follows:

"First—To the payment in coin of the interest on the bonds and notes of the United States.

"Second—To the purchase or payment of one per centum of the debt of the United States, to be made within each fiscal year after the first day of July, 1862, which is to be set apart as a sinking fund, and the interest of which shall in like manner be applied to the purchase or payment of the public debt as the Secretary of the Treasury shall from time to time direct.

"Third—The residue thereof to be paid into the Treasury of the United States."

Judge Richardson goes on to state that Congress, by joint resolution of March 17, 1864, chapter 20, gave the Secretary of the Treasury permission to sell gold in the Treasury, but added a proviso that the obligations to create a sinking fund should not be impaired. During the war when the Government was negotiating new loans no steps were taken to establish the sinking fund, but the coin in the Treasury was allowed to accumulate to about $100,000,000.

When President Grant was inaugurated in March, 1869, Secretary Boutwell commenced creating the sinking fund in compliance with the act of Congress.

In discussing the condition of the sinking fund, some apparently inconsistent figures are given, some claiming that the fund is largely short and others that it has been and is largely in excess of the legal requirements. These differences in the figures arise from the different views of the requirements of the laws; those who say the fund is short base their calculation by counting the sinking fund from February, 1862, the time the law was passed, while those who say the fund is overpaid begin their calculations from March, 1869. Which construction of the law is correct will probably never be judicially decided; but for all practical purposes the Government has decided that the sinking fund began July 1, 1868, and as the Treasury Department is acting on this construction, all discussion of the question should start from the same basis.

That such is the decision of the Department will be seen from Richardson's remarks in 1872 (page 830 of his book), in which he says: "The great revenues which the country in excess of the expenditures have enabled the Secretary to purchase bonds *much more extensively than the sinking fund law absolutely requires*, and the debt has been more rapidly reduced than by the operation of that fund alone. He goes on to state that the sinking fund itself will extinguish the entire national debt in about thirty years.

Turning now to the report of Secretary Bristow for 1874, we find on page 19 a detailed account of the operations of the sinking fund since its institution up to and including June 30th, 1874, in which the fund is each year, charged with 1 per cent. of the total debt of the Government, and 6 per cent. on the amount of debt reduced each year and credited with bonds purchased and canceled.

This account shows that there has been purchased and destroyed on account of the sinking fund proper, $141,612,050, at a net cost in gold of $135,427,657 39, which amount fully pays the sinking fund all that it is entitled to under the law.

On page 24 of this report we find a table showing the purchases of bonds in excess of the amount required by the sinking fund, the grand total of which shows the excess to be $182,241,750, at a net cost in gold of $172,274,559 25. Adding these two amounts of bonds together, we have the total amount purchased and canceled of the Government, May 12th, 1869, the date of the first purchase, to September 24th, 1873, the date of the last purchase—$323,253,809 in bonds, at a cost in currency of $307,981,483 79, or a net cost in gold of $307,702,207 64. The average rate of premium in currency being 1.27, and the average cost in gold being 95.19.

In a foot note the Secretary says the bonded debt of the United States has been reduced by the amount of these bonds which have ceased to bear interest, and have been canceled and destroyed.

The sinking fund amounts to about $50,000,000 a year, and to show how that amount is arrived at, we give a detailed statement of the fund for June 30, 1874, the close of the last fiscal year:

To 1 per cent. principal of the public debt June 30th, 1873, $2,234,427,993 20

$21,344,819 93

To int. on bonds redeemed in 1869.....$ 1,289,114 66

To int. on bonds redeemed in 1870.....1,289,114 66

To int. on bonds redeemed in 1871.....1,267,107 00

To int. on bonds redeemed in 1874.....923,081 00

Total sinking fund for fiscal year ending June 30, 1874.....$30,852,447 85

The above certainly clearly settles what the sinking fund is, and that it is $182,241,750 in excess of the legal requirements. Whether the excess should be drawn on when the revenue from taxation is not sufficient to pay the expenses of the Government and provide for the sinking fund, or whether the excess should be held intact and $30,000,000 a year added to it at any cost of increased burdens of taxation, is a question for Congress to decide.

The Secretary has announced his intention of providing first, for the interest on the public debt; second the sinking fund, and last the expenses of the department, and we think his decision a wise one; for to sustain the credit of our bonds in Europe it is necessary to provide each year as it comes round $30,000,000 for the redemption of our obligations, whether there is an excess in the sinking fund or not.

—The following is a report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Central	56	56½
Pennsylvania Central Scrip	107	
Reading, sales	57	
United Co.'s of N. Jersey	131	
Oil Creek, sales	11⅝	
Lehigh Valley, sales	63½	
Allegheny Valley	91	
Central Transportation	43¾	44
Empire Transportation	54½	55
Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis mortgage bonds, sales	77	

GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, February 15, 1875.

Trade to-day was rather limited in its extent and showed the sluggish character that has marked its course for some time past. The meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was well attended, although but little business was transacted. We are glad to see that business men are beginning to see the importance of this organization, and that they recognize the value of its meetings, even if nothing more is done than to discuss the interests of business men generally. If a proper appreciation of what can be effected through such an organization is infused, and sustained in all classes of business, we can hope for great advantages to Pittsburgh in the future.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	550	Apples, bbls	112
Corn, sks	1,100	Wheat, sks	907
Barley, sks	351	Rye, sks	125
Oats, sks	920	Butter, pkgs	61
Hay, baled	257		

The following quotations are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free of elevator:

GRAIN, FLOUR AND FEED.

GRAIN—Transactions on 'Change this morning were quite limited. There was, however, a good attendance of dealers, and the interest in keeping up the organization continues unabated. Prices were not materially changed, although what seems a little stronger, a sale of red having been made at $1 17 per bushel. We quote choice Kentucky white wheat at $1 20 @$1 30 by sample; Ohio, Michigan white at $1 25@1 27; Ohio and Illinois do $1 20@1 25; amber do $1 16 @$1 18; Ohio and Pennsylvania red wheat $1 15@1 17. Corn has become quite quiet, with much change in quotations. 2 cars of high-mixed sold at 52c. We quote shelled high-mixed at 52@53c; low-mixed 51c. Ear corn is steady, a car lot having sold at 75c. We quote prime yellow ear 70@75c per bushel; mixed 71@75c. Oats continue in good request, with a tendency to higher rates. We quote 65@66½c per bushel for white; 63@64c for mixed. We note sales of 1 car white at 65½c; 2 cars do at 66c; 1 car mixed at 64½c. Rye and barley are nominally unchanged.

FLOUR—The market is dull and depressed. We note a sale of 5 barrels low grade at $4 00. The following are the wholesale prices of the local millers: Superfine white wheat flour $7 50@8 bbl; No. 1 amber wheat do $6 50; red wheat flour $6 10; in sacks 30c off ₱ bbl. The jobbing prices of the leading dealers are as follows: Choice brands of white winter wheat flour $8 00@8 25; Wisconsin do $7 75; Minnesota $6 75@8 00; red winter wheat flour $5 75@6 50; flour $5 75; Graham flour $5 75; self-rising flour, in 5 pack bags, $6 00; rozen package cornmeal, old do $3 75; new $3 40@3 50; oatmeal $7 75@8 00.

HAY—The markt continues at low quotations but there seems to be a fair trade; 2 cars prairie hay sold at $17 00; 1 car timothy at $20 00. We quote prime timothy, on track, at $20 00@22 00 ₱ ton; No. 2 do $18 00@19 00; inferior $15 00@17 00; baled hay from store is quoted at $22 00@24 00. Loose hay is selling

THE
Pittsburgh Daily Commercial,
GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE.
Now is the Time to Subscribe.

The conductors of the COMMERCIAL have for some time contemplated a Reduction in the Price of the Paper to Subscribers, where delivered by Carriers or Agents, and now announce that from and after MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1875, the terms to such will be

Fifteen Cents Per Week.

Leave your orders for the Carrier at the Counting Room of this office.

CITY MATTERS.

FOR one dollar per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed daily to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 24, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., February 15, 1875.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	WIND. Force.	Weath.
7 A.M.	30.59	—8	61		Calm.	Foggy.
2 P.M.	30.40	7	54	N.W.	Fresh.	Fair.
9 P.M.	30.48	3	71		Calm.	Clear.

Mean barometer....30.48 Highest thermom. ..10
Mean thermom.....5 Lowest thermom....—10

Rising Sun Flour.

The leading city grocers keep this brand, as it draws trade for other goods.

Proposed Bank Consolidation.

It is said there is a movement on foot to consolidate the Lawrence Savings and Metropolitan banks with the Penn Avenue Trust Company, and convert the consolidated institution into a National bank. The new bank will occupy the Lawrence Savings bank building, corner of Penn avenue and Butler street.

A Mate for the "Lucy."

Messrs. Kloman & Carnegie Bros. contemplate building a second furnace next summer—a mate for the famous "Lucy." The dimensions of the new furnace will be the same as those of the "Lucy"—seventy-five feet high and twenty feet bosh. Many improvements will be added, however, which the "Lucy" does not possess. The plans for the new furnace are being perfected by Mr. A. C. Kloman, who expects to have them ready for the builders early in the spring.

Death of a Pauper.

Coroner McCallin was notified yesterday morning of the death of a woman named Elizabeth Edgar, which occurred at the Allegheny Poor Farm last Saturday. The deceased, it appears, has been an inmate of the Home about five months, and has been sick nearly all that time. The Coroner ascertained that the woman had told the matron of the Home that she had an abortion, and she believed it would cause her death. As there appeared to be no one at the House who knew anything about the matter, the Coroner deemed it useless to attempt an investigation.

Stable Burned.

About half-past five o'clock yesterday morning a frame stable on Second alley, near James street, Allegheny, belonging to John Cook, a dairyman, was destroyed by fire. The alarm was given and promptly responded to by the department, but that serious drawback, frozen plugs, gave the flames such headway that the building was nearly burned down before water was procured. Mrs. Cook was milking the cows when the fire broke out, and from the fact that she heard some one in the stable is believed that the mischief was caused by an incendiary. Loss about $300; no insurance.

Narrow Escape from Death.

A narrow escape from death was made Sunday morning by the wife of Mr. Snyder, a section boss on the Pennsylvania Railroad. She was walking along the track in East Liberty, and seeing a train approaching, attempted to step to one side, but in so doing her foot became firmly fastened between the rails near a switch, and she found herself unable to move. The engine was so near that the engineer was unable to check it, and but for her presence of mind in throwing herself upon the ground, Mrs. S. would certainly have been killed. She escaped with a fractured knee and some slight scratches.

The Monthly Weather Review.

Sergeant Rohe has placed in our hands the weather review for January, 1875. This month has been remarkable for storms and for changes in temperature. The tables of average of mean temperatures show that "the weather has been decidedly colder than usual, especially from the Missouri Valley to the Middle and Eastern States, except in the South Atlantic States only slightly so. For Portland, Oregon, the mean is over ten degrees below that of January, 1874. This is, no doubt, due to the intense areas of high barometer which, first appearing in the extreme Northwest, have swept south and southeastward, thus covering the east of the Rocky Mountains. Many observers mention it as the coldest month for many years. On Mount Washington the minimum temperature registered forty-six degrees below zero on the 27th; at Denver, Colorado, on the 9th, twenty-nine degrees below, the lowest ever known.

Worthy of note is the comparison of the predictions, as to weather, wind, temperature and barometer, prepared and issued to the public tri-daily, with the facts as shown by the reports, has been made by an assistant other than the one making the predictions. It has been found that ninety and twenty-five hundredths (90.25) per cent. have been verified.

From present indications, February will make as good a showing, so far as cold is concerned, as the January record. The thermometer at the signal station, yesterday morning, stood at ten degrees below zero, but in many other sections the mercury fell to twenty below.

Escaped From the Penitentiary.

Joseph McMullin, a thief, some three or four months ago committed by our Court of Quarter Sessions to undergo imprisonment for the term of twenty years, escaped yesterday from the Western Penitentiary. McMullin was concerned in numerous robberies in Allegheny, and the indictments against him had resulted as stated. Joe had obtained leave to work outside, and on a favorable opportunity yesterday morning donned a keeper's coat, rolled up his barred pantaloons and walked off. He was not missed until some time afterward, and even then it was thought he was somewhere about the institution. Finally, after considerable search, his absence was acknowledged and efforts to arrest the fugitive were set on foot. Word was sent to the Allegheny Mayor's office, and a reward of $100 for his capture announced. It was about two o'clock before the information reached the Pittsburgh Central office.

It is reported that McMullin was seen, under the influence of liquor at the White House, on Fifth avenue, this city, but up to a late hour he had not been recovered.

THE TEMPERANCE ALLIANCE.

The Local Option Law—The Anniversary.

A weekly meeting of the Temperance Alliance was held yesterday morning, with a rather slim attendance, owing, no doubt, to the cold weather.

After preliminary exercises, Mrs. Jope reported in the work of progress distribution of food and clothing by the W. C. T. U. ladies.

Mr. Rabe stated that at the anniversary meeting on Monday, the Rev. Snyder would speak concerning "Educating the Germans." Dr. Kennedy, of the Anniversary Committee, reported progress.

Prohibition business was then taken up and the following resolution offered by Mr. A. Kirk:

Resolved, That it is with great pleasure we note the strong opposition developed in the Legislature against all change in the Local Option law; and further,

Resolved, That we hereby tender our thanks to the members who have opposed any change in the Liquor laws of the State, and respectfully ask them, on all votes, to call for the yeas and nays, that a record may be formed of the votes of every member, for use at future elections.

Discussion ensued, and the resolutions were finally adopted.

Mr. Finley, of the committee appointed at the last meeting to see to arrangements for a hall, etc., for the coming anniversary of the Alliance, was called upon and reported progress.

Mr. Finley's report included a list of names for officers of the Alliance to be chosen next Monday.

Thomas B. Rabe will be President, and Rev. Swift Vice President.

An election of officers for the Alliance was to have taken place, but, on motion of Mr. Kirk, the election was postponed till next Monday, the 22d inst. Mr. Finley proceeded to state that a critical point had been reached in this Local Option matter.

In the East End, Mr. Finley said there was at present a very great revival in progress, a revival which was doing a great deal of good, but in the speaker's opinion the devil was holding fully as successful a revival at Harrisburg.

A committee of three, Messrs. Kirk, Bradley and Rose, were chosen to forward the above resolutions to Harrisburg.

Adjourned.

THE SCHAMBERG LIBEL CASE.

Trial in the Court of Quarter of Sessions—The Court Overrules Defendant's Motion to Quash, and the Trial Proceeds.

Yesterday morning the case of the Commonwealth against Max Schamberg, indicted for libel, was called for trial in the Court of Quarter Sessions, Judge Collier on the bench. The indictment charges that the defendant did publish in the Pittsburgh *Post*, of October 30, 1874, a gross and malicious libel, of and concerning Colonel Thomas M. Bayne, who was at that time District Attorney of this county. The publication of the alleged libelous matter, it will be remembered, was made during the candidacy of Colonel Bayne for Congress in the Twenty-third district, with a view of injuring him by prejudicing a certain class of the voters against him. The alleged libel was in the form of a communication, and was published in various other newspapers of the city. It represented that at the instance of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, the subscriber had been indicted for having sold certain railroad tickets at reduced rates, contrary to an act of Assembly on the subject; that the railroad company had begun the prosecution because it had not been satisfied with the manner in which Mr. Schamberg had managed his European Agency; that Mr. Schamberg, with others, had been convicted, but through the leniency of the Court he had been sentenced to pay a fine of *only* $500; Judge Sterrett remarking to him that he was fortunate in not being sent to prison, but that if he would repeat the operation he would not get off so easily the next time. The article cast some reflections on the justice of the law itself, charged that Mr. Schamberg had been the only one sentenced, although several others had been convicted of the same offense, and that ex-District Attorney Bayne had corruptly settled with the other defendants, and had the penalty of the law inflicted upon him simply because he was a Jew. It closed with a few words of advice to the people of the Twenty-third Congressional District not to vote for such a man as Bayne, with such a record as this against him.

When the case was called up, District Attorney Montooth, Thos. M. Marshal and Marshal Swartzwelder appeared for the Commonwealth, and Messrs. W. D. Moore and A. M. Brown, for the defendant.

Mr. Brown made a motion to quash the indictment, on the following grounds: The information made before Alderman Hager, charged the defendant with having published a "gross and infamous libel" on the prosecutor in the *Post* of October 30, 1874, wherein he represented that Col. Bayne in his official capacity as District Attorney had degraded his office by corruptly making side settlements with defendants in cases in which he was concerned as District Attorney, which representation was grossly false and which was intended to blacken his reputation. The indictment, however, varied from the information, and Mr. Brown maintained that the variance was a fatal one. It contained three counts, two of which charged the defendant with having libelled Colonel Bayne as a private citizen, and the third made reference to him as a public officer, but it was so faulty, as a pleading, that it could not be sustained. In other words the information charged the defendant with having libelled Colonel Bayne as a public officer, while the indictment charged him with having libelled him as a private citizen. Such an indictment could not stand. It was contrary to all law and precedent, and not a single authority could be cited in favor of a principle allowing a prosecutor to make a charge or a series of charges against a person in an information, to have that information returned to Court, then to have the indictment utterly ignore the charge or charges set forth in the indictment (the very basis for an indictment) and then to set out a charge or series of charges wholly distinct from those appearing in the information. That could not be, and yet that was the very difficulty in this case. The information referred to Col. Bayne as a public officer, while the indictment dropped this charge and referred to him as a private citizen, to which no reference whatever was made to the information. The third count in the indictment referring to Col. Bayne, mentions him as "said District Attorney, or then and there District Attorney," but did not distinctly aver he had been charged with being corrupt in his office as District Attorney. It might infer that he had been so charged, but that was not enough. The averment might be distinct and unmistakable. In regard to the words "then and there District Attorney," they were totally at variance with the established form of pleading, and simply meant nothing. The phrase should be, "then and there *being* District Attorney." Mr. Brown said he simply made this motion in justice to his client. He had prepared himself to defend against the charge made against him in the information, and now he finds that charge dropped and a distinct one put upon to defend against another charge entirely.

Mr. Swartzwelder maintained that the indictment, although it might have been a little more artistically drawn up, was good. The intention in the indictment was to give the defendant an idea of what he would be required to defend against, and he thought that the idea was clearly indicated, although it might have been a little awkwardly expressed. There, however, was no fatal variance he thought. He argued at some length and with force this point.

The Court was of the opinion that there was no fatal variance, but thought the indictment could have been prepared more artistically. In reference to the first two counts they could be disregarded as surplusage than that set forth in the information, and could refer to nothing outside of the allegations in the information. The Judge therefore allowed the indictment to stand, and overruled the motion to quash, allowing the defendant an exception.

The case for the Commonwealth was opened by Mr. Montooth, who stated briefly what they expected to prove, and that the evidence would warrant a conviction of the defendant. Witnesses were then called as follows:

M. V. B. Douthett, a *Post* reporter, was the first witness called. He said he did not know that Schamberg visited the office of the *Post* for the purpose of preventing the publication of the article containing the alleged libel. He had heard the defendant talking to Mr. Lare, one of the editors of the paper, about a communication.

Frank M. Higgins, another *Post* reporter, testified that the defendant brought the article in question, and submitted it to him. Witness declined to assume the responsibility of its publication; did not know if the article appeared next day or if was intended to go to the office, or several days after.

Fred. M. Purdy, who is connected with the business department of the paper, testified that the article was published as an advertisement. The advertisement had not been paid for; the bill had not been presented.

Mr. Lare, one of the editors of the *Post*, testified that he knew nothing about the article until he saw it in the paper. It got in through the business department.

Witnesses were examined as to the publication of the article in other papers of the city, but as the *Post* was the only paper mentioned in the indictment, this testimony was objected to as inadmissible, and objection sustained.

The case will be resumed this morning.

THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE.

Mayor McCarthy Signifies His Intention to Veto, if Passed in Its Present Shape.

We have already published, in full, the appropriation ordinance for 1875, as prepared by the Finance Committee and adopted by the Select branch of the City Councils. Mayor McCarthy, as in duty bound, has been giving it careful attention since the publication, and yesterday, the first opportunity, made known to the members of the Finance Committee, when he could get together before the meeting of the Select branch, that he felt compelled to veto it. Messrs. John Shipton, chairman, and Mr. David Aiken were among those to whom the Mayor made the announcement. Mr. McCarthy called attention to the fact that for "water works interest" but $257,000 were appropriated, while under the law an appropriation should be made for the full amount of interest, which would amount to about $309,000. In this the Mayor referred to the following from the act of February 35, 1868, authorizing the borrowing of money to extend the water works:

SEC. 4. That the Councils of the City of Pittsburgh *shall* annually, at the time other appropriations are made, appropriate out of the revenue from water rents a sum sufficient to pay the interest accrued or to accrue during the year upon all outstanding bonds, and a further sum of not less than two per cent. of all bonds which may have been issued in pursuance of this act, to be set apart as a sinking fund for the extinguishment of said indebtedness.

Mr. Shipton and Mr. Aiken said there were $52,000 now in the Treasury which could be used for the purpose of paying interest, and for that reason the appropriation was made as stated.

The Mayor intimated that he would be compelled to veto the ordinance as it stood because the law had not been complied with, and that the $52,000, however it may have remained from last year had nothing to do with it.

A Leak in the Upper Reservoir.

The Superintendent of the Water Works, Mr. Atkinson, has his hands full just now. His services are called for in nearly all parts of the city, on account of the bursting of pipes, while he is endeavoring to thaw out the fire plugs and keep them in readiness order. For this latter purpose he is burning charcoal nightly in sheet iron stoves placed in various plugs in the thickly populated districts. A new trouble has also arisen, which is a matter of serious concern. It is believed that there has sprung a leak in the upper basin of the old works, and the point of loss cannot be found. A week ago he discovered that the water was disappearing too fast; but notwithstanding the most searching examination, he has, so far, failed to find the leak. The water, which is usually kept to a height of eleven or twelve feet in the reservoir, was yesterday reduced to four feet, although all the pumps at the lower works have been kept constantly in operation. Four gangs of men were put to work examining the sewers.

SELECT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Board of Fire Commissioners—The Proposed New Assessment Act—Radical Changes in the Sections—A Division in the Council, and the Bill Laid Over for Want of a Quorum.

Select Council of Pittsburgh met in special session yesterday afternoon, Dr. Gross, President, in the chair.

After the reading and approval of the minutes of the previous meeting,

Mr Aiken presented the fifth annual report of the Board of Fire Commissioners, as follows:

FIRE COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

PITTSBURGH, January 1, 1875.

To the Presidents and Members of Select and Common Councils:

GENTLEMEN—Introductory to the fifth annual report (1874) of the fire department of the city of Pittsburgh, the Board of Commissioners would state that by their directions the accompanying details as to expenditures and to operations have been made as full and explicit as possible for the information of Councils and the public, and it is hoped that they will be found of such interest as to command examination and study. The aim of the Board has been to gradually increase the efficiency of the department without heavy outlay, and in this it is believed the report will show continued success.

THE OPERATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT during the past year have, in the opinion of your Board, been very successful, but we are free to say that were the new city districts all opened up for travel and fully supplied with water the loss by fire would not have been much more than one-half the amount given. The Chief Engineer very properly notes this fact, showing a number of fires where heavy losses occurred, in localities in the new districts hard to reach and where water was difficult to obtain. The total loss for the year was $258,681, against $211,989 for 1873, while the number of fires was 253against 212 of the previous year, 1873. The total amount of insurance upon property destroyed, or partially destroyed, was $880,740; the amount of insurance paid was $186,144, leaving a net actual loss to property owners of only $73,537, an increase of net loss over 1873 of $14 337.

EXPENDITURES—IMPROVEMENTS.

The total expenditures for 1874 from the City Treasury were $161,868, or $70,386 77 less than the previous year. Of the total amount expended $36,239 77 were extraordinary expenses, as shown in the accompanying table—for new apparatus, buildings, &c.—making the net running expenses of the department for the year $125,629 05.

During the summer months when fires are less frequent vacancies occurring in the membership of some of the companies were allowed to remain, by which a considerable amount of money was saved.

The receipts from the sale of buildings, old materials, &c., were $7,341 61, and the expenditures therefrom in part payment for new buildings, were $8,995. The balance in this fund January 3, 1874, was $7,279 83, and the balance now remaining is $5,250.

The new building, corner of Ninth and Bingham streets, South Side, was completed during the year, and is occupied by Engine Company 11, Mechanics'. The new building for the Thirty-sixth ward, which, under the contract, was to have been completed December 1, 1874, is not yet finished, the contractor failing in his stipulations. It will be ready, however, and before spring an engine company established there. A new steamer was purchased during the year, and also a new hook and ladder truck. Two more steam heaters are being attached to all the engines in service. By the use of this invention steam is kept up all the time in the boilers, and when the engines and they are then ready for any emergency, and no delay in throwing water, where it can be obtained, will be experienced.

Mr. Joseph Busha engineer of engine company 4 deserves mention for an invention by which sleds are connected with the gongs in the engine houses and the alarm there recorded. This precludes the possibility of error in counting the alarm and allows all members of the company free to aid in hitching up the horses and in the preparations to answer calls speedily. The Board has selected a gentleman in the city to do the work done by skilled mechanics, such as machinists, carpenters and painters, members of the department, who are always willing to make repairs.

WATER FACILITIES.

As this Board is responsible for the success of the department they are exceedingly anxious that all proper facilities be afforded them. One of the first requisites necessities is water, and where it is wanting the work of the firemen cannot be expected to be successful. We would urge upon your Honorable bodies to hasten the completion of the new water works and to extend pipes where possible from the old works, meanwhile. In this connection, it is proper to call your attention to the fact that larger mains are required on some of the principal streets in the old city, notably, Second avenue, the main source of supply in the business center. The main on that thoroughfare is but four inches, and ought to be more than doubled. Should a fire gain headway in the business portion of the city, great loss may be occasioned by the want of a full supply of water.

FIRE SOUTH SIDE HILL DISTRICTS.

The Board has under consideration the affording of protection to the hill districts of the South Side, but there is great difficulty in the matter. There is no water supply of any account there except in cistern, and the roads are in such condition as to cause great difficulty in "covering" the district with apparatus. The citizens of that locality pay taxes for fire protection, and of course ought to have it, and we are anxious to supply the want. There are but two ways that it can be done, viz.: fire constructions at large distances, at convenient distances apart, and the use of chemical fire engines. The former would be very expensive, and the working of the latter we are not yet sufficiently acquainted. The districts will be visited by a sub-committee of this Board, and as speedily as possible such protection will be arranged as can best be done.

The schedule of property owned by the city and in charge of this department will be found in full form and value.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE W. WILSON, President,
for the Board.

The report was accepted.

THE NEW ASSESSMENT ACT.

Mr. Shipton, from the Finance Committee, presented the draft of the act entitled "An act for the more certain and equitable assessment of taxes in cities of the second class."

On motion, it was decided to act upon the sections separately.

When the first section was read, Mr. Braun moved to amend, making it the duty of Councils to elect members of the Board of Assessors, instead of the courts to appoint.

Mr. Hollday seconded Mr. Braun's motion.

Mr. Aiken opposed the amendment, as allowing the possibility of favoritism.

Mr. Liddell favored the amendment, and said that there was but one member of the Judiciary who resided in the city. He would rather the election be left to the people or to Councils. If with the court, a majority might be appointed from the East End.

Mr. Littell resented any imputation against the judiciary, and Mr. Liddell disclaimed any such intention.

Mr. Anderson favored the bill as presented, saying that if the appointment was left with the courts it would be the best for all. The courts could not be approached and button-holed, and they would be free to appoint the very best man without fear or favoritism. He also called attention to the fact that the appointments were not with any one court, but with the seven judges.

After some further discussion the ayes and noes were called, and the amendment was carried—ayes 29, nays 17.

Mr. Liddell moved to strike out the latter clause of the second section and provide for appeal to the Committee on Appeals of City Councils, instead of to the Court of Common Pleas.

After discussion the amendment was adopted by a vote of 27 to 15.

A DIVISION IN THE COUNCIL.

A motion to adjourn, at this point was voted down.

When the third section was read, Mr. Atterbury moved to strike out the word "property" and insert "lands."

Mr. Rafferty moved to strike out the whole section.

Mr. Shipton moved to make the tax two-thirds the highest rate upon agricultural and untilable land.

Mr. Rafferty argued that the tax on rural districts should remain subject to the decision of the Supreme Court.

After discussion by Messrs. Atterbury, Aiken, Goldthorpe and others, Mr. Atterbury withdrew his motion to allow action upon that of Mr. Rafferty.

The ayes and nayes were called and the section was stricken out by a vote of 25 to 17.

A motion to adjourn was again voted down.

Mr. Breed moved to recommit, but the motion was lost.

Several members moved to proceed with the consideration of the bill, and section four was read and, on motion of Mr. Liddell, adopted.

Section five was next read and adopted without debate.

Section six, repealing all laws inconsistent, was also adopted, and a motion to adopt as a whole was then made.

The question was put, but before decided a call of the house was ordered. It was found that there were but thirty-one members present, and the chair announced that no decision could be made on the vote and that the Council stood adjourned.

Native Iron Ore.

Frank Cowan says: The find of iron ore in Fayette county is marvelous. It is so unlike iron ore in appearance that good metallurgists have been heading it for years without suspecting its character. It lies from two to four feet below the ninefoot Pittsburgh seam of coal, is quite soft, and can be mined very economically—one dollar per ton—by the long wall system. It is locally called the "coal" ore, and contains thirty per cent. of iron. Its yield per acre is estimated to be not less than seven thousand tons! Within the coming season it is confidently expected that two and mayhap three furnaces will be erected along the rival railroad lines between Connellsville and Uniontown; and within the next five years, Fayette county will doubtlessly be the great iron center of Western Pennsylvania.

THE TAX BILL.

Action of the Select Council—The Bill Amended—The East Indies Bob, and the Council Adjourns—Speculations on the Kitty Roup Case, etc.

The Select Council held a special meeting yesterday afternoon, for the purpose of considering the bill "for the more certain and equal assessment of taxes in cities of the second class." The bill had been carefully considered in committee, and its main features were: First, the appointment by the courts of a board of three assessors to take the place of the Board of Revisors. Secondly, the division of property into three classes, with a half rate for farm land, a three-fourths rate for rural or suburban property, and a full rate upon city property.

The first discussion was upon an amendment giving the appointing power into the hands of Councils, instead of the courts. The amendment was carried, the members from the old wards feeling that they would have a "surer thing" as to the complexion of the board, by keeping the appointment in the hands of Councils, than if they trusted to the courts.

When the third section was reached, the "old warders" made a motion to strike it out entirely. This was the section authorizing a classification of the subjects of taxation, and of course the "rural warders" opposed the motion to strike it. The amendment was carried, however, by a very decided vote, and the members from the old wards would not take this action as equivalent to a declaration that rural and farm lands should pay full rates, unless the Supreme Court held otherwise. Such was the meaning of the action of the majority. Having gained this advantage, the members from the old wards were determined to approve the bill as amended, but in this they failed. The members from the rural wards, or at least a number of them, dropped out, one by one, and left the house without a quorum. A vote had been taken on the bill as amended, when Mr. Mitchell demanded a call of the house. Before the vote was announced, the roll was called, and it was found that there was not a quorum present. Dr. Gross, chairman, then ruled the Council stood adjourned for want of a quorum.

The bill, therefore, was not approved; nor does it matter much, perhaps, whether it shall ever be approved, as there is a well grounded belief that the Legislature would not pass it; and that, even if it should pass, the Governor would veto it. The same clause of the Constitution which provides that "all taxes shall be uniform upon the same class of subjects," also declares that they "shall be levied and collected under general laws." A law for the levy and collection of taxes in cities of the second class, can hardly be held to be a general law.

The decision of the Supreme Court in the Kitty Roup case, now daily expected, will settle the status of the tax question in this city, for some time at least. If, as the city Councils have held, there can be but one rate of taxation under the Constitution, then the one-third discrimination in favor of rural property becomes void. If, as is strongly intimated will be the case, the Supreme Court should decide that the question is not a judicial one, but legislative, then the law will stand as it is until a general act, covering this whole question of taxation throughout the State, shall have been adopted.

The action of the majority of Select Council, yesterday, in refusing to concede anything to the new wards has engendered a very bitter feeling; and after the body had adjourned, some quite unparliamentary crimination and recrimination indulged in between gentlemen representing the two sections of the city. The happiness or unhappiness of the East Indies, considered from a "taxable" standpoint, depends upon what the Supreme Court may say to Mrs. Kitty Roup, whose case, let it go as it may, must render her name famous in all the journals. The South Siders seem to get no consolation from any quarter, and hence have taken steps for filing a libel in equity before the successor of Judge Hardtstrup, on the ground of cruel and barbarous treatment.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Mrs. Rousby is a very beautiful lady and a natural, pleasing actress. Her first appearance last evening in "Twixt Ax and Crown," in which play she assumed the character of the *Princess Elizabeth*, was highly successful. Her beauty of person and the easy grace which distinguishes her among the actresses of the day, are prepossessing in the highest degree and disarm criticism of the purely intellectual part of her performance. It can, however, be coolly and truly said that she has a musical voice, well under control, and which is used with marked ability. If she lacks that thorough abandonment to the passions she would represent which is an indispensable requisite of the actor's art, it may likewise be said that she is human and must somewhere fall short of perfection. To see her and hear her is a pleasure of the kind not often enjoyed, and we heartily commend her to our readers.

Mrs. Rousby was supported by Mr. Frank Evans and the Opera House company. Mr. Evans has a fine stage presence, which he somewhat abuses by what is known as the "pulpit style" of measured rise and fall; and in long passages this style has a tendency to monotony. In this manner, though not over-animated, is graceful, and his reading intelligent.

Miss Cassie Troy had *Queen Mary* to do, and we regret to say that the fault was her fault with Miss Troy in this regard, however, for somebody had to take the part.

Mr. Egbert, as *Renard*, made one of the hits of the evening. His part is finely conceived and executed. Mr. Crompton also gave a fine personation of *Gardiner*. We tried to like the *Hartington* of Mr. Owen, but couldn't get an idea of what he meant it to be.

For a first night, and considering the fact that "Twixt Ax and Crown" was a gratifying success. It should draw full houses while it holds the boards. To-night and until further notice, it will be repeated.

Library Hall.

If any evidence had been needed to show that Lotta is popular in Pittsburgh, the audience which gathered at Library Hall, last evening, to greet her after a five years' absence would have furnished it. The crowd was not only large, but made up of first-class people. Although the performance had several drawbacks serving to detract from the full enjoyment of it, no signs of displeasure were exhibited. The company have been here together before; the stage people and the machinery they were expected to manipulate were strangers to each other, and, as a result, some delays and "waits" were naturally to be expected. But Lotta herself was sufficient to overcome all obstacles, of such a character, and keep the people in a good humor with everybody behind the footlights. The little lady retains all her vivacity and *verve*, and her every appearance was greeted with applause and applause. Her songs, dances and banjo solos met with redemands, which she, always gracious and graceful, readily acceded to. Of the company it would hardly be fair to speak critically, under the circumstances. Strangers to each other, and playing after one hurried rehearsal, perfection could not be looked for. But with Mr. E. A. Locke, Mrs. Waldron, Miss Bagley and other such material, much better things may be expected this evening, when "Zip" and the company will be heard to better advantage.

Seats are on sale at Hale's music store, No. 103 Smithfield street.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

Though the bitter cold weather kept many of the patrons of the above theater away last night, the opening of Mr. Aims' new career as manager was signalized by a full house. The performance was first rate throughout, and each and every one of the new stars received liberal applause. There will be an enjoyable an entertainment again to-night.

Tom Thumb Troupe.

Tom Thumb and wife, Minnie Warren and Commodore Nutt, will hold levees at Masonic Hall on Friday and Saturday next, afternon and evening.

Italian Opera.

On Saturday evening, at the Academy of of Music, the Strakosch Italian opera company will produce "La Sonnambula." Seats will be sold at Kleber's, Wood street, commencing on Thursday morning.

English Opera Bouffe.

Miss Emily Soldene and her company of English *opera bouffe* artists will appear at Library Hall on the 24th and 25th inst., giving "Madame, L'Archiduh" and "Geneviere De Brabant."

Blood, Thunder, Red Fire and Scalping Knives.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and Wednesday matinee, next week, Buffalo Bill and his company will be at the Fifth Avenue Theater. Of course "the boys" will turn out in full force to greet these great expounders of the blood-and-thunder drama.

The Frankstown Burglars.

Sullivan and Barrett, whose arrest upon the charge of participating in the burglary at the tavern of Mr. Roderus, in the Twenty-third ward, was reported in yesterday's COMMERCIAL, were examined before Mayor McCarthy yesterday morning, and were held in $1,000 each to answer at court. Sullivan was committed, but Barrett expected to get bail and is still at the Central station, the fracture of his limb having received proper attention. Barrett and Sullivan appeared as witnesses for White, Tunney and Spiedel, the men who were first arrested, and who are now in jail on the same charge.

Highway Depredations.

A lady residing on Anderson street, Allegheny, was passing along Sandusky street Saturday afternoon, when she was accosted by a well dressed young man, who inquired the way to East street. The lady gave him the direction, but the man affected deafness, and putting his head down nearer her face asked her to repeat the direction. That lady is now mourning the loss of a pocket book containing twelve dollars.

Saturday night about eight o'clock a lady was stopped by a tramp on the Hand street bridge, who demanded money. The lady threatened to shoot, and the fellow ran away.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

Andrew Jackson, bankrupt, Allegheny City. The hearing on a motion for an injunction against S. S. Jackson was adjourned to the 22d instant.

John A. Christy, of Oil City, filed a petition for adjudication in bankruptcy of himself. Referred to Register Rogers, of Franklin.

Alexander Ross, bankrupt, Warren county. The report of W. W. Wilkur, auditor to examine and ascertain the lien against the estate of said bankrupt, presented and confirmed absolute.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Sterrett and Stowe.

James Benny, Jr. vs. Reese Owens. Action to recover balance said to be due in a stock operation. On trial.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Brown vs. Hubbell; Mayberry vs. Jones; McGowan vs. Lantz; Schleiler & Co. vs. McDonald; Whigham, trustee, vs. Haney; same vs. Hunter; same vs. O'Neal; same vs. Patterson; Watson vs. the City of Pittsburgh; Mundorff vs. Evans *et al.*, Deilenbach vs. Hill; McAlinder vs. Kelly *et al.*; Sohn vs. Huffman; Korn vs. Herron.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Ewing and White.

J. W. Lahugh vs. William McKee, action to recover money loaned. Verdict for plaintiff in $241 34.

Andreas Hampe vs. John Sorg, action to recover damages for slander. Verdict for plaintiff for $55.

J. C. Dicken vs. Joseph Orr, action to recover damages for breach of contract. Verdict for plaintiff for $130.

Garlick and Sizer vs. Adam They. Action on a promissory note. Jury out.

Mrs. M. Schmitt presented a petition for the benefit of the act of Assembly, securing to married women their private earnings. Petition granted.

Adam Holderman vs. William McCreery. Motion to strike off the amendment allowed in changing the form of action and allowing the filing of the new *narr* in trespass in the case.

Canfield use vs. Malone *et al.* Defendant moves for a new trial and files reasons.

In the case of R. M. Evans vs. Gregor Flucke, the verdict was for plaintiff for $239 24.

In the case of Samuel Musgrave vs. Jos. Irwin, committee of William Clinton, the jury found for plaintiff for $229 13.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Giltrap vs. Krause; Schwers vs. Overbeck *et al.*; McDonough vs. Bracken; Walter vs. Klingeman; Waight vs. Dickey & Davis; Hoge vs. Overbeck *et al.*; Getty vs. Cox; Poole; The Commonwealth for use, vs. Havemyer; Burgan vs. McBroom *et al.*; Banford vs. Ponte *et al.*; Mills vs. Jamison (2); Carroll *et al.* vs. Carothers.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Collier.

In the case of Daniel Buss, indicted for malicious mischief, in killing turkeys belonging to Mrs. Adora Jones, of Moon township, the defendant was acquitted.

The Schlamberg-Bayne libel case, reported elsewhere, is still on trial.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Commonwealth vs.

Eliza J. Ballot, J. White, *et al*; Frank H. Burch, Teddy Finn, *et al*; Samuel Paisley, Peter Conyer, *et al*; D. McGowan, Daniel Smith *et al*; Wm. Riley, Robert Donaldson, George Hutchison, Thos Howard *et al*; Baldy Hentley, Henry Wilson (2), Edward Parsons, John Vieham, George Gillespie.

Death of a Newspaper Man.

Mr. James W. Irwin, business manager of the *Presbyterian Banner*, died yesterday at his residence in Wilkinsburg. Irwin had been employed in the *Banner* office for the past sixteen years, and was mailing clerk in the office of the *Union* when Thos. J. Keenan, Esq., owned that paper. In the various positions which he has held in newspaper offices Mr. Irwin discharged his duties faithfully. His death will be mourned by many friends.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

MUCK IRON is going up. Holders were asking $44 yesterday.

THE Guardians of the Poor of the city, are giving out $200 per day for out-door relief.

THE explosion of a range at No. 11 Wylie avenue yesterday morning shattered the windows, but did no further damage.

THE Health officer of Allegheny reports twenty-one deaths in that city last week—white, 18; colored, 3; males, 15; females, 6.

The alarm of fire from box 157, on the South Side, yesterday morning, was caused by a defective flue in a house on Fifteenth, near Twenty-seventh street. No damage.

DAVID JONES, colored, charged with stealing coal from cars of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad Company, will be examined before Alderman Barker Thursday.

ON returning from their wedding trip, Mr. and Mrs. John D. Zweidinger were presented with an elegant dinner set, consisting of forty-seven pieces, by the Fanchon Social, of this city.

ORTWEIN will be hanged in the yard between the wall of the south wing of the jail and the Sheriff's new office. He has commenced the erection of a wall to complete the inclosure yesterday.

Two Southsiders got into it fight Sunday afternoon, in a boat on the Monongahela river bank, between Twelfth and Thirteenth streets, in which one had an eye gouged out and the other a thumb chewed off.

THE water main on Second avenue, between Smithfield and Grant streets, bursted yesterday, and persons residing on that thoroughfare were seriously annoyed at the cutting off of their water supply. The break, it is thought, will be repaired by this morning.

A LAD was run over by a wagon yesterday afternoon, at the corner of Church avenue and Penn street, Pittsburgh. After a wheel had passed over his body the little fellow got up and walked away, telling those who offered to assist him that he was not the least hurt.

A RANGE exploded about nine o'clock yesterday morning in the kitchen of Mr. James S. Atkinson, on Carson, near Mill street, Southside, setting fire to the house and knocking off the the plastering. The mother-in-law of Mr. Atkinson had fortunately left the kitchen a moment before the explosion occurred, or serious injury would have been done.

HON. SCHUYLER COLFAX, Ex-Vice President of the United States, spent a short time in the city yesterday. He delivered his great lecture on "Abraham Lincoln" to a crowded audience at Library Hall, Allegheny, on last night. Mr. Colfax has lectured almost every evening for two or three months passed, and his future engagements are very numerous, embracing nearly all sections of the Eastern and Western States.

Headache.

It is an established fact that the extract of cranberries and hemp combined by Dr. Miller, of Spruce street, Philadelphia, in the manufacture of his most obstinate cases of dyspeptic, nervous or sick headache, and is an absolute specific for nervous pain. Prepared in pills. Fifty cents a box. Sent by mail. H. E. Sellers & Co., 43 Wood street, Pittsburgh. Agents wanted. 7ths

Time is Money,

but health is happiness. If you have a bad cold or cough use Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup, it will cure you. Price, 25 cents.

A Walking Advertisement.

LIMESTONE SPRINGS, S. C.

DR. R. V. PIERCE, Buffalo, N. Y.

Dear Sir—I am a walking advertisement for your Golden Medical Discovery, Purgative Pellets and Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy, they having cured me of Catarrh of long standing, which was so bad that it disfigured my nose, and while curing it, your medicines also cured me of Asthma in its worst and most aggravated form. Before using your medicine I had become reduced to 98 pounds; now one hundred and fifty-five to one hundred and fifteen pounds, and I now weigh one hundred and sixty-two pounds, and am in better health than I have enjoyed for twenty years.

Yours truly, HANNAH L. ELLSBERRY.

The above is but a fair sample of hundreds of letters which are received by Dr. Pierce, and in the majority of instances where can longer doubt that the Doctor's med